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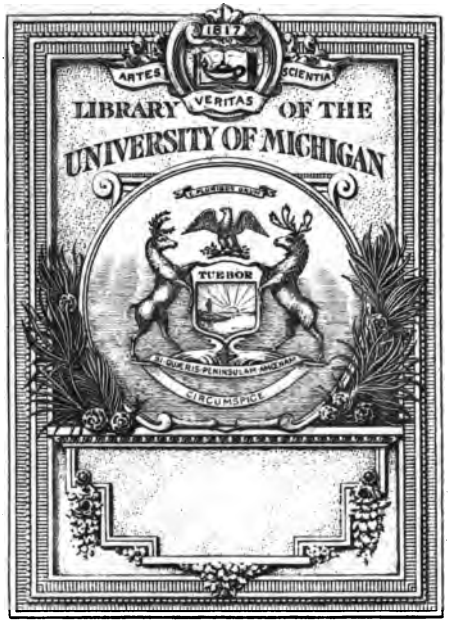

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THE

CARICATURA:

OR

BATTLE OF THE BUTTS,

As it was fought at

BRENTFORD, &c.

On Monday, the 28th of MARCH, 1768;

BEING A COPY FROM

MR. HOGARTH'S MARCH TO FINCHLEY.

WITH

A RESEARCH

INTO

The Records eſtabliſhed under the Ancient Two KINGS of BRENTFORD.

By E. WHIRLEPOOL,
Citizen and Haberdaſher.

There were three Cooks of Colebrook,
And they fell out with our Cook,
And all was for, a Pudding he took
From one of the Cooks of Colebrook;
They beat him ſo, that he did look,
Juſt like the very Pudding he took,
From one of the Cooks of Colebrook, &c.

Genealogy of the Three Cooks of Colebrook,
By T. DURFEY.

Printed for G. KEARSLY, at No. 1, in Ludgate-Street; J. ALMON, Piccadilly; G. WOODFALL, at Charing Croſs; and H. PARKER, in Cornhill, 1768.

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To JOHN WILKES, Eſq;

Knight of the Shire for the County of Middleſex.

SIR,

THE lower order of people within this kingdom, having drawn upon themſelves the too juſt charge of inſolence and abuſe towards their ſuperiors; this reflection, it will be ſaid, ſhould have warned me from treading in their ſteps, by the temerity of this dedication to you; more eſpecially being obtruded upon a knight of the ſhire, of the moſt reſpectable county in England, without any ceremonious obſervance of due diſtance, proper decorum, or reſpect; and ſince I am in doubt, whether the *general warrant*, by cuſtom from former bad examples, will bear me out in making the forcible entry upon your privacy; permit me to avail myſelf of the honeſt privilege of freedom in the preſent caſe, which you have ſo eminently, nobly, and vigorouſly maintained by lawful warrant, when executed with proper decency.

Under

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Under this paſsport I preſent myſelf an unprejudiced, unbiaſſed freeholder of the county of Middleſex, where I gave my ſuffrage for you, and glory in the name of Middleſex; and therefore, oh, do not caſt me from your preſence, as an undeſerving free liveryman of the city of London, for I do not glory in that qualification.

Yet in the frankneſs of my heart, whilſt I thus openly acknowledge what redounds to my ſhame and confuſion, equally with what I think praiſe worthy, I am made happy in my dependence of appearing in no diſadvantageous point of view to Mr. Wilkes, the defender and maintainer of all honeſt truth; more eſpecially when it ſhall appear, that the hiſtorical part of my eſſay is laid at your feet, qualified for that period in your own hiſtory, which ſhould in juſtice diſplay your moſt noble carriage and ability happily exerted, to prevent the dreadfully threatening carnage in the wars of Brentford; and which, excuſe my vanity, will come better qualified from a ſtranger, than Mr. Wilkes's more able pen, in every other particular.

But becauſe I cannot forego the privilege yourſelf has ſanctified to the people by example; permit

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permit me, Sir, to indulge it that whilſt I am ſpeaking of your virtues, I enlarge upon your crimes, at leaſt ſome of thoſe which the diſcontented may think neceſſary to load your account with; the moſt flagrant amongſt which, concerning the public, is your ſtrict adherence to truth, which has ariſen to the height of bigottry in your profeſſors of it; and from thence I am inclined to hope you will receive it from me with your uſual grace and temper.

How then, moſt revered patriot, will you exculpate yourſelf from the odious infamy of having cheated many people by making your own market at Brentford; this charge I am a witneſs to, unprejudiced, as I am having never been hurt by your impoſitions; but that man muſt have the face of the Red Lion himſelf, who ſhall dare to deny the validity of this charge againſt you.

And although numbers are not wanting who recriminate that your cheats have been confined to a juſt retaliation on the ſame heads who had already cheated you in the city; this, I confeſs, is unfair dealing in your advocates, who are ſo ready

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ready at all times to compare your bad actions with the wickedneſs of your enemies.

Again, if common report is ſufficient ground for accuſation againſt you, which is frequently admitted, I am at a loſs to know how you will acquit yourſelf from ſome charges in the body of the following Eſſay, viz. The capital crimes of burning the Temporary Bridge; and the Murders of Mrs. Ruſcombe and her family; on which charges I am the more particular, for that a gentleman in Weſtminſter offered his teſtimony to me, in order to fix them both upon you, if I would pay his coach-hire, with ſome ſmall gratuity for his trouble in coming to me for that purpoſe: But having waved his proffered ſervice, from its mercenary tendency, and an abhorrence of a greaſed evidence, it remains with you, Sir, to acquit yourſelf of the report, if you think proper.

A Dedicator makes a mean figure in the front of his Works, who knows not which ſide his bread is buttered on; and therefore to you, much honoured Sir, as the great patron of all ſound literature, hearts, and true bottoms, I preſume

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preſume to offer the following Eſſay, in full perſuaſion, that what your great judgment approves, will merit the approbation of nineteen twentieths of the honeſteſt hearts of at leaſt two, out of the three kingdoms.

I am, with profound reſpect and veneration,

Honoured Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

The HABERDASHER.

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THE EDITOR'S PREFACE.

WHEN an author recommends his works to the favour of the public, it is a duty he owes to his readers, as well as himſelf, to be thorough maſter of the ſubject diſcuſſed; but more eſpecially if he means to be either religiouſly, or morally inſtructive.

Writers of hiſtory, altho' in ſome meaſure tied down to the ſame rule, have yet taken a greater latitude; experience teaching, that all who have written on polemical ſubjects have either been defective in knowledge, or ſo totally blinded by prejudice and partiality, as to leave the reader ignorant in the points wherein he moſt earneſtly wiſhes to be rightly informed.

The truth of this aſſertion is ſo univerſally underſtood, that I ſhall attempt no apology for my own defects, till I receive more ample conviction, that readers are more impartial than is cuſtomary for authors to be: this, indeed, would be unreaſonable in me to expect, who am bound

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to acknowledge, for the ſake of truth, that I find it impoſſible to diveſt myſelf totally from prejudices: all I requeſt therefore is, that having little inclination to cenſure other writers, or correct their errors, I may paſs under the ſame favourable reception from the public.

Perhaps I may be told it is the height of aſſurance in a trader, without intimacy with the claſſics, or even the ineſtimable bleſſing of a ſcholaſtic education, to undertake the inſtruction of others in any point. To ſuch a challenge this anſwer is applicable, and will, I hope, give entire ſatisfaction; that in a country which ſhall be nameleſs, becauſe I would not give offence, where beggars in general are taught to ſpeak Latin, it has produced as few good authors, as are to be met with among the trading part of our own.

Authors, therefore, who ſell their reputations as cheaply as they can poſſibly afford, are under leſs reſtraint, than ſuch whoſe chief ambition is gaining reputation only by their writings; and ſorry I am to obſerve, that the latter are much more frequently liable to error in fundamentals than the former, who take the honeſt courſe of earning

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earning their bread in the way beſt ſuited to their genius, leaſt puzzling or troubleſome to the reader, and not always void of inſtruction or information: And altho' it is full out as neceſſary, that the green-grocer, banker, and retailer of ginger-bread, ſhould have ſome capital to open ſhop with as the merchant; yet, as little as the world may have hitherto conſidered the point, the ſucceſs of either profeſſion depends upon certain qualifications in their reſpective callings; with this only difference in favour of the banker, that his reputation and fortune, may be raiſed upon another's foundation; whereas the green-grocer, and retailer of ginger-bread, muſt be poſſeſſed of ſome capital ſtock of their own to make way in the world; nevertheleſs, ſo faſt as theſe improve their capital, their reputations keep equal pace, and riſe in proportion, upon their own foundation.

My principal view in this undertaking differs not from other mens, whether green-grocer, banker, retailer of ginger-bread, or merchant, it is, I muſt confeſs, pecuniary. This acknowledgment will, in ſome degree, advance my own reputation, as a ſample of my veracity, and will gain me further credit, I hope, and confi-

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dence from my readers, in dependence on my information, whilſt I am in purſuit of my journey to Brentford; and without tiring myſelf or my readers patience, raiſe my reputation as a hiſtorian, equally as if I had rode at anchor upon a dolphin, under the high land in the harbour of Patagonia, and made my returns in the valuable inſtructive hiſtory of the gigantic natives of that country.

But before I ſet out, which will not be till Saturday the 26th of March inſtant, in order to be an eye witneſs of the battle, it may not be amiſs, or entirely unneceſſary, to give ſome little account of myſelf.

The obſervation is pretty general, that the man who thinks meanly of himſelf and his performances, muſt not expect greater indulgence from others; and I could inſtance where vanity and ſelf-ſufficiency have laid the foundation of a goodly ſuperſtructure.

Now, altho' I have gathered all my erudition behind the counter of a haberdaſher, having been bred to that profeſſion, I have equal emulation to become an author as an alderman; indeed

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indeed, neither of theſe grand points are attainable without a capital ſtock of reputation, to introduce a young man to an intimacy with the learned and unlearned world: I have counted noſes in the latter; fined for conſtable and other offices in my pariſh; ſtand high in the opinion of the veſtry, and have but little doubt of ſucceeding to the church-wardenſhip at our next election; nor do intend to ſtop there, but keep on and in view of the pleaſing proſpect of further advancement to any eaſier chair in the city, ſtill qualifying myſelf for a ſeat in a more reſpectable aſſembly.

Some ſkilful management, as well as knowledge in the political ſyſtem of the times, is apparently neceſſary to my advancement; and altho' in the ward wherein I have been an inhabitant nineteen years, and during twelve of that period a houſekeeper, daily propagating the old-faſhioned doctrine of honeſty's the beſt policy; and upon ſome occaſions, practiced it myſelf, to ſet a good example to others, among whom ſome few have found their account in it; yet I muſt confeſs, that the old road to the Bank, thorough Threadneedle-ſtreet, in the time

of

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time of my apprenticeſhip, was much more incommodious to traders than at this day.

The man of obſervation and penetration knows well, that the old cuſtoms and faſhions muſt give way, and experience, the beſt guide to penetrating heads, ſhould regulate all our future proceedings.

How ſtrangely defective were the intellects of our forefathers of the city, compared with the preſent generation; they were mere grubs and muckworms: how filthy their ideas; how mean their purſuits; their underſtandings circumſcribed within the narrow bounds of a yard wide, or an ounce weight, figuratively ſpeaking; few poſſeſſed many grains, and many were puzzled with ſcruples; but theſe were prejudices which the wiſe founder of Greſham foreſaw the effects of, and provided againſt the moſt threatning bondage, by eſtabliſhing daily lectures within that College for improvement of our underſtandings, appointing profeſſors, engroſſing more weighty conſiderations, and widening our crampt capacities. To this nurſery we are indebted for the wholeſome inſtruction in the uſefulneſs of cleanlineſs; the children of filth

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have been turned dry, their nakedneſs cleanſed and new cloathed, and, by the wiſe and inſtructive lectures of the ingenious profeſſors, men have been taught to put money in their pockets, to open new roads, and enlarge every proſpect; the green-grocer of former times, buried in his cellar, now ſhakes off his filth, and appears above-ground in his cabbage warehouſe; the chandler has his butter and egg warehouſe; every individuals ideas have been enlarged, and ancient cuſtom by degrees giving way, has now rendered the name of ſhop-keeper as odiouſly ſcandalous as ſhop-lifter; the opening our views from the city towards Bedlam has introduced freſh openings to our underſtanding, in forming a broad ſtreet to that beautiful edifice; and from thence a new and more direct road, in a line, to the court end of the town.

Till the world ſhall be better acquainted with my underſtanding and talents, I am aware how much I muſt ſuffer in their opinion, by declaring myſelf a haberdaſher of ſmall wares; but at the ſame time, in the midſt of this moſt mortifying reflection, I have ſome recent conſolation and encouragement to proceed; and ſhould

labour

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labour under neceſſity of charging myſelf with falſe delicacy, and being ſtrait laced, and binding up my talents, whilſt poſſeſſed of all materials, by my occupation, neceſſary to recommend any ſtay-maker to the world, who take their meaſures properly, and who ever will receive a price according to the excellence of his workmanſhip, whether in ſtitching or binding.

It alſo occurs to me for encouragement to proceed in my hiſtory, that whatever cenſure may be due or beſtowed upon the author for this preſumption, the haberdaſher cannot equally ſuffer in his occupation, if he avoids ſcandal; he may make himſelf as ridiculous as his vanity prompts him to be; his folly and abſurdity may anſwer a very material point in promoting his trade, if it appears he has no miſchief in his head. I well know the world is intitled to, and will take the liberty of laughing at his folly, and perhaps divert itſelf at the ſmall expence of a yard of ribbon, or a row of pins, out of curioſity, to read the lines of a ſagacious hiſtorian's patern-drawing face behind his counter; who has opened the ſtore room of a trading politician, and who will make the beſt acknowledgment of the favour, by moſt civil welcome to the royal point.

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HISTORY

OF THE

ELECTORATE OF BRENTFORD.

CHAP. I.

The Original Foundation of the Monarchy of Brentford, *ſhewing it to be Elective.—Three Legitimate Sons of the two Kings of* Brentford, *in* Poland *at their Father's deceaſe.*

BRENTFORD became an elective ſtate, from the commencement of the reign of the two joint kings, and founders of that monarchy, Anno 1636. How long they reigned is not material in this place, tho' it may figuratively be affirmed, they ſtill reign in

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the hearts and memories of a grateful and brave people, who moſt chearfully embrace all occaſions to commemorate the peaceful, happy effects of their mild government, firſt eſtabliſhed on the lineal deſcendants, from the noble and never to be forgotten George Villers Duke of Buckingham.

The lenity of theſe firſt kings, their wiſdom and valour, is ſo faithfully recorded, that it would be needleſs to add to the honourable and only remaining hiſtorical account of their reign handed down to us, and pointing out the happineſs of a people eſtabliſhed on the firm baſis of full liberty of electing their own kings, from the æra of thoſe religious and mighty monarchs.

A people made ſo eſſentially happy, by the liberty of their free choice, would be more than ungrateful to their religious and pious kings memory, not to hold them in the higheſt veneration: and indeed it has ever been a remarkable characteriſtick of that happy, free eſtate, to preſerve their ancient privileges and independence, without

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without deviation, or ſhewing the ſmalleſt inclination of falling into licentiouſneſs or anarchy.

There are two capital reaſons aſſigned by this republic, for having continued almoſt a century and half, what may be ſtiled neutral, without proceeding to the election of two other kings to reign over them.

The firſt and moſt ſolid reaſon ſpeaks itſelf; that by the wicked and treacherous aſſaſſination of the great Villers, before his expedition to the Iſle of Rea, the genealogical regiſter of the kings from that line being depoſited in the archives of that illuſtrious houſe; the fundamental motives to induce the malcontents of thoſe times, and which inſtigated the committing that atrocious murder, was to obliterate, and totally eraſe all traces by which the rightful heirs to the crowns of Brentford might poſſibly be diſcovered; and it muſt be acknowledged they ſucceeded but too well, few having eſcaped their fury.

Vague ſurmiſes have nevertheleſs been made, and reports ſpread, in the confuſion of thoſe

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licentious times, that there were three legitimate ſons of the two kings living in Poland at the time of their father's deceaſe; but as neither of theſe princes came over to demand the crowns, Brentford remained unking'd; and were neceſſitated to have recourſe to repreſentatives, who governed themſelves and the eſtate by the eſtabliſhed laws. And theſe repreſentatives, in the interregnum, in pious regard to the original rights veſted in the Buckingham line, erected an obeliſk in the center of Brentford, which has been preſerved to this day, having three civic crowns pendant therefrom, in ſignificative hieroglyphics of the three reputed heirs in Poland, to either of which that houſe is kept open.

Several claimants have preſented themſelves, but none being able to prove their lineal deſcent from the two kings of Brentford, a new election of kings has not been deemed elegible to take place, for this ſecond reaſon.

The free, independent electors, from true wiſdom, guarding hitherto againſt all pretenders, tumult

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tumult and riot, the common attendants on elections in free ſtates, politically came to the determination of remaining unking'd, until the crowns ſhould with propriety be claimed, and affixed on the heads of the indiſputable true heirs.

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CHAP. II.

Contentions, Diſſentions, and Plots in Poland, *to diſturb the Peace of* Brentford.—Villeroſki Buckeiſke's *Intrigues in* Poland, *examined.*—*Sets up his Claim to one of the Crowns of* Brentford.—*Prince* Jabalanouſke, *Black Miniſter, deputed into* England, *to examine into* Villeroſki's *Pretenſions. His Negotiations when arrived at* Brentford. *His great Amuſement in Dancing and Muſick. A great Maſter of both.*

IT is beyond diſpute that the late and preſent confederacies, and diſſidents againſt the crown of Poland, are likely to be attended with dangerous and melancholy conſequences; if not to Europe in general, yet more eſpecially to the free ſtate of Brentford. England appearring too forward, at all times intereſting herſelf in broils of her neighbours, and the contending parties in Poland availing themſelves of this unhappy diſpoſition, willingly embrace the fair occaſion of ſeizing one at leaſt, if not two

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two of the crowns of Brentford, flung out as it were to their invitation. So it is conſtrued, tho' very unjuſtly, to blemiſh the ever apparent true loyalty of the republic.

Religion in the preſent, as in moſt other intereſted diſputes and conteſts, ſets forward on a full gallop to claim her ſhare in the political conteſt.

Villeroſki Buckeiſke, a pretended zealot, tho' in truth a lukewarm patriot; a furious pretended aſſertor of the Poliſh liberty, under the feigned name of Buckeiſki, and the protection of an illegitimate ſon of the Poneatouſke family; having been diſcovered in a ſecret correſpondence carrying on with his friends in England againſt his maſter, his perſon and papers were ſeized, by order of that government, by a party commanded by a Lithuanian officer in the Poliſh ſervice, and himſelf and Buckeiſki committed cloſe priſoners.

Upon inſpection into the papers taken, it appeared, that his true name was Buck Cookſke; and upon the priſoners firſt examination, being interrogated, he affirmed himſelf to be

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a lineal deſcendant and coheir with his brother in England, to the two crowns of Brentford; and being further examined, as to the nature of his correſpondence carrying on with his friends in England, he pleaded, that his attempt to bribe the Poles to enliſt into his ſervice, was in order to ſupport his claim and pretenſions on the crowns of Brentford, in conjunction with that brother's intereſt then eſtabliſhing in that kingdom.

How far theſe pretenſions may, or may not affect the Poles, remains at preſent doubtful; but thus much muſt be allowed, that the threatning conſequences are unhappily very alarming to the liberties and rights of ſovereignty of the crowns of Brentford. For, it is from theſe pretenſions, and the general diſſatisfaction of the unruly natives of the kingdom of England in general, that the electors of Brentford, by the intrigues of the Buck Cookſke family compact, are likely to be diſturbed in the peaceable enjoyment of their liberty, eſteemed invaluable in that quarter till the breaking out of this unhappy affair.

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Yet happy however in the interim, that the wiſdom of the Poliſh government have pitched upon, and thought proper to depute and appoint, the ingenious and moſt able miniſter in Poland; prince Jabalanouſke, of the Caſſock family, to proceed hither with proper credentials, in order to ſcrutinize into the pretentions of the Buck Cookſke's; with ſtrict injunctions, tho' himſelf a black miniſter, not to endanger the amity and friendſhip ſubſiſting between the two nations, by too punctilious examination into the religious tenets of either the candidates or electors.

Jabalanouſke's great abilities, to which many of the greateſt perſonages in this kingdom are no ſtrangers, ever ſince the memorable year, in which he had the great honour of treating the deſcendants of king Cadwallader with expenſive magnificence, and the black ſoup of Poland, then firſt introduced to the tables of our nobility; had by his great learning and politeneſs fixed the regards and eſteem of the great Cook of Norfolk, to whom he now paid his firſt addreſſes on his arrival in England: here then he diſcloſed the ſubſtance of his miniſterial commiſſion and embaſſy.

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The Norfolk family's connections with the great world, furniſhed ample genealogical tables, with the claims and deſcent from the Eaſt Angles; but neither from the moſt lively deſcription of Villeroſke Buck Cookſke's perſon, or other circumſtance whatever, would it be with colour of credibility admitted, that he was any, even ſuperfluous branch of that honourable and ancient houſe.

Jabalanouſke's indefatigable endeavours in all negotiations, and purſuits of his maſter's intereſts, turned his thoughts from hence to another ſpring head, from whence he might be able to trace the further current of enquiry.

It muſt not here be inſinuated, that Jabalanouſke's general knowledge had left him unacquainted with the abilities of eſquire George Cooke, the intended joint candidate, for repreſenting the county of Middleſex; here then was commenced his further ſcrutiny; the reſult of which ſet aſide all pretenſions of affinity or conſanguinity between Villeroſke Buck Cookſke,

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and the gentleman to whom Jabalanouſke's application was ſo diſtinguiſhably addreſſed.

Patience and perſeverance could not be ſubdued in this active miniſter; he preached and practiſed it, and excited others to follow his laudable example, for detection of the impoſture, and allaying the diſcontents of our own, as well as the Poliſh nobility and gentry: in ſhort, he was eſteemed and careſſed by all who was honoured with his preſence; and his lively genius recommended him to the eſteem and confidence of the politeſt company of ladies, of the higheſt diſtinction; and once at a ball given by an honourable houſe, he introduced and led up the Poliſh dance to muſick, both compoſed by himſelf, being a lover of muſick and dancing, (and excellent compoſer) called in the Poliſh language, the Wild Gooſe Chace, and which in Poland is conſtituted the Royal Dance, and only tolerated to aſſemblies of the nobles, who dance it up and down long ways, for as many as will. The firſt man caſts up, then caſts down his oppoſite neighbour; then croſſes over and figures in; then right hand and left all round; then

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turn in and out all on the oppoſite ſide quite to the bottom, and return of his own in the ſame manner, till he arrives at the uppermoſt place in the aſſembly. But to return from this digreſſion to his negotiations.

Very ſoon after the prince's return from his tour thro' the county of Middleſex, he received a billet from an unknown hand, wherein was deſcribed an accurate repreſentation of the portrait of the identical Villeroſke Buck Cookſke, in his uſual and remarkable attitude, well known to the prince; this hint was received with agreeable ſurpriſe by his excellency, who being yet unacquainted with the anonymous author, was deprived of the opportunity to acknowledge the obligation, which the politeneſs of that nobleman would moſt certainly have performed in the very firſt inſtant.

In the addreſs received, however, was an intimation that the ſurviving repreſentative, and heir apparent to the eſtates and poſſeſſions of the three ancient Cooks of Colebrook, was the very identical Villeroſke, at this time impriſoned in Poland.

Jabalanouſki

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Jabalanouſki immediately ſet out for Colebrook, where he very ſoon furniſhed himſelf with the vague pretenſions of this family's original deſcent, and claims of right to the crowns of Brentford, which it is moſt certain would not be admitted by the free electors of the county of Middleſex.

Hiſtoric doubts, notwithſtanding the unwearied ſearches of the author of that curious, celebrated piece of criticiſmatical enquiry, has nevertheleſs revived new ſcruples, by his endeavours to remove the old, ariſing from natural confuſion in the dark miſts of theſe times, by the queſtion now in agitation at Colebrook, whether the Buck Cookſke's have not as apparent a claim of lineal deſcent from Harry the 6th, as Perkin Warbeck ?

The Brentfordians, ever memorable for peaceable and wiſe government, have in a more eſpecial manner approved their wonted ſagacity, by rejecting the claim of Buck Cookſke; at the ſame time admitting that of George Cooke, Eſq; to be a candidate for one of the repreſentatives at the next election: furthermore, out of the well

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well known loyal principles, and great abilities of Sir William B. Proctor, and the intimate connections, and obſtinate perſeverance in their own rights and qualifications, confederated together for the intereſts of the gentlemen of the county; they, the electors, have, as at all other times, determined to ſtand by one and other, to act and do the thing which ſhall be right, admitting this claimant a ſecond candidate repreſentative.

The Poles however, who intereſt themſelves in the welfare of the electorate, are a compact body of able men, not diſpoſed in general to favour even the warrantable pretenſions of either; and tho' they revere the names of George and William, as loyal ſubjects, and dutiful inclinations directs, yet being men of underſtanding, they place no great confidence in ſounds, and promiſes of anti-repreſentatives, from whom hitherto they have not experienced any great performance.

John of Bucks, a ſharp-ſighted, clear-headed, honeſt late officer of the militia, deſcended from one of the kings of Iſrael; renowned for true Britiſh

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Britiſh ſpirit, of tried courage and wiſdom, whoſe anceſtors were as well known in the diſtricts of St. John's, as himſelf at St. James's; whoſe piety by ſome has been too frequently and unneceſſarily diſputed;—Oh! grief of griefs, to ſerve worldly purpoſes, by enthuſiaſtic declaimers,—lineally deſcended from the loyal Bucks, at the head of whom he ſerved as lieutenant colonel many campains; till over zealous pretenſions on behalf of religion, truſted in the hands of a time-ſerving enemy, aſſiſted with phanaticiſm and political intereſt, ſapped the foundation of his colonel's commiſſion, blew up the lawn ſleeves of his enemy, and ſet the kingdom on flame. John, nevertheleſs deſerving for his ſpirited conduct on all occaſions, where loyalty to his king, and the honour and intereſt of his country claimed his beſt aid, was revered by all ranks of honeſt, loyal ſubjects, ſtood firm and undaunted, when the troubles in Poland, fomented by agents of the ſame kind, that ſought his ruin, ſpread again the contagion by intercourſe held with the free electors of the county of Middleſex.

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This John of Bucks preſented himſelf as a candidate to repreſent the honeſt freeholders, was joyfully admitted, and took his meaſures accordingly; ſolely depending on the love of the people, and juſtice of his cauſe. He had too much real, not nominal virtue, and ſtrong propenſity to peace, to uſe any underhand meaſures with the body of thoſe troops he had formerly led in perſon for defence of his royal maſter; no, he ſcorned all approaches in peaceable times by military expedients, which, if he had made choice to have availed himſelf of, experience had pointed out the paltry puſillanimity of the livery trained bands, who had like daring conquerors ſpread a mighty alarming front to his enemies, yet at the time of action turned their a—ſes on their friend. This experience taught him their readineſs to fly from the ſmell of all powder, but wig powder.

Notwithſtanding theſe ſentiments juſtly entertained of the citizens by John, of whom it muſt be obſerved he was as good a politician at leaſt as the commander in chief of the city trained bands; he ſounded their foibles, attacked the weakeſt of their weak ſides, the lines of their front,

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front, and obſerving in their curling bandiliers and kevenhuler beavers ſome aukward expreſſions of irregular approach to the imitation of genteel court capariſon, he nobly maintained his own uſual dignity, addreſſing their leaders in the politeſt terms at their general rendezvous upon a publick occaſion; and to do his no friends juſtice, tho' they had once eluded our ſagacious hero's penetration, the returns they now made to him, when they were informed of his intentions hereafter with regard to his repreſenting the electorate, where their own pecuniary intereſt had no concern, they again cried out, one and all, John of Bucks, and Liberty for ever.

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CHAP. III.

Rejoicings in the City of London.—*Debates and Diſturbances in a certain Pariſh.—The Pacific Diſpoſition of* Brentford.—*The Day of Election for Repreſentatives fixed, and Qualified Perſons named.—Diets held.*

ACclamations ran like trained-band wild-fire thro' the ſtreets; the bells were ſet a ringing in every part of the town, and were only ſilent in ***** *****, for the churchwardens were much divided in their political capacities; Mr. ******* and his adherents having taken umbrage at the behaviour of the Caſſocks, and ſome at the Poles, and they could not immediately determine which intereſt to ſide with, or declare for, or whether both or neither; or indeed, did any of them know whether the intereſts of the Poles and Caſſocks themſelves were oppoſite, or both united in one and the ſame intereſt, till they had the advice and opinion of their Proctor from the Commons; a motion was therefore made for an adjournment to the Horns, to conſider of the ſteps neceſſary

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to be taken, that ſhould appear eligible on the occaſion; the meſſenger was diſpatched to the Commons, the ſteeple-keeper attended with the keys, that he might be in readineſs for drink and orders; and the churchwarden being ſeated in the club-room, and attended by the overſeers, headboroughs, and other heads of the pariſh, they preſently diſcovered themſelves to be in the wrong box; for the meſſenger being returned from the Commons, they were given to underſtand, that the king of Poland himſelf had not as yet declared which party he eſpouſed in the depending election for Middleſex, notwithſtanding they did come to a reſolution, that their bells ſhould ring; hereupon the belfry-keeper preſented himſelf with the keys, but before he received any poſitive orders and directions, they fell into a diſpute, whether their chimes ſhould not be ſet agoing, with the agreeable tune of Nancy Dawſonne, in honour of **********; but the clerk oppoſed the motion, being in the intereſt of the Caſſocks himſelf, and would willingly have preferred the Black Joke, in compliment to their dignity; and the whole ſociety, convened by this time, were fully advertiſed,

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that the Poles and Caſſocks were equally concerned for the fate of Middleſex.

Here again they were interrupted by another more ſenſible ſpokeſman, who had received a meſſage from the city in behalf of one of the candidates, requeſting that the chimes might be ſet off to the tune of The King ſhall enjoy his own again; the whole aſſembly took fire at this motion, and were again for conſulting the opinion of ſome of the lawyers, who had been employed in the law-ſuit commenced at the charge of the pariſh ſome time ſince againſt the late vicar ******** their miniſter, in order to ſecure a reſerve, and retreat out of any ſcrape they might bring themſelves into by complying with the requeſt out of the city; and whether, if any ſuit ſhould be commenced againſt them, they, the churchwardens, had ſufficient power to make a rate of aſſeſſment, in equitable proportion, upon the pariſhioners, to defray the expences. But the impatience of ſome perſons would not admit of delay; and the ſteeple-keeper being called, the keys were not to be found, for the miniſter taking umbrage at their

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noiſy proceedings, had ſent for and demanded the keys from the keeper, by claim of lawful right, to the free uſe of all parts of the church, of which the ſteeple was one; and altho' he acknowledged the pariſh had a claim at common law to the bells in the ſteeple, yet the ſole right of poſſeſſion of the keys was in the miniſter; the aſſembly therefore broke up in the utmoſt confuſion, tumult, and diſorder, with a reſolution to commence a freſh ſuit in the Commons againſt him.

Thus far we ſee the ſeeds of rebellion ſown, and the harveſt advancing. In the mean time the Brentfordians turned all their attention towards a ſtoppage of diſcontents, heart-burnnings and jealouſies; and began to give way to free debates, aſſembling and opening the firſt diet at Acton, and another in the capital of Brentford New Town, in order previouſly to conſult and fix upon a certain day for commencement of the election; and on the ſame day, and at the ſame places, to declare the candidates, in order to their admittance under ſanction of the Poles.

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The honourable perſonages then named were George Cooke, Eſq; Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, and John of Bucks, Eſq. Thus far all debates were carried on under a total calm, nor were the ſmalleſt marks of diſſatisfaction viſible at theſe firſt dietines, a ſword drawn, or a drop of blood ſpilt, though ſome penetrating obſervers remarked with pleaſure, the geſticulations and flouriſhings of very ſharp and bright caſe knives at the firſt opening of theſe diets.

The day of election being fixed and agreed to by all the ſuffrages for Monday the 28th day of March, in the preſent year, and the candidates, who had honoured the aſſemblies with their preſence, they were complimented with very high encomiums for paſt ſervices, which were not particularized on this ſad, ſolemnly joyful occaſion, when each candidate aroſe from his ſeat, and made returns in elegant eloquent ſet ſpeeches, for the great honours paid to them that day, by the independent voters; and then the diets were adjourned to a further day, and the body-guard of each candidate eſcorted them to their ſeveral palaces, with loud acclamations of the populace, which were very numerous.

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Never ſince the grand conteſt for the election of the borough of Garret, of members to ſerve without doors, in the year 1761, to this preſent hour, had ſuch general joy ſhone in the viſage of the people; nine-tenths of the tribes of electors flung up their hats, with loud huzzas, bleſſing his Majeſty King George, with acclamations for Liberty, and John of Bucks for ever. On the other hand it muſt be acknowledged, that the remaining tenth tribe of electors were ſeemingly not ſo well and thoroughly ſatisfied with the apparent diſparity of numbers, in favour of the truly well-beloved favourite of the people, which now blaſted the lucrative hopes of his opponents; well judging, that ſhould John of Bucks carry his election with the high hand which now ſeemed to favour his pretenſions, that merit would not be found among the ſmall body of his opponents in the Poliſh intereſt to ſecure to themſelves all the penſions and places, and the reverſions of penſions and places, which would neceſſarily be diſpoſed on the moſt deſerving, and the moſt worthy ſticklers for the freedom and liberties of his majeſty's dutiful, and truly loyal ſubjects, warm

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with zeal for the conſtitutional ſupport of their religion, and the laws of the kingdom.

Theſe appearances on the ſide of the majority brought on a moſt apparent baſhfully, frightened, horrid, affectedly calm indignation, over the countenances of the tenth tribe of Caſſocks and Poles, at the threatning danger of their miſcarriage.

The queſtion agitated at Colebrook, about the time of the black miniſter, prince Jabalanouſke's being in that country, concerning Villeroſke Buck Cookſke's right of inheritance to one of the two crowns of Brentford, tho' himſelf at this time in durance in Poland, began about this time to be bruted and ſpread in the electorate of Brentford, by ſome agent incendiaries of the Colebrook Cookſke's confederacy; and it was ſaid that ſome few were ſo hardy in his intereſt as to offer drafts on a great banker in London, at a moſt immoderate exchange, for a ſum of money to be advanced immediately, in order to bribe, and raiſe votes in his favour, and thereby make a diviſion of the intereſt

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intereſt of the contending candidates; but ſince no one of credit could be found to back ſuch drafts with indorſement; or if found, could any of the electors be prevailed upon to touch, tho' it ſhould be offered; this ſcheme proved abortive, and of courſe fell to the ground.

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CHAP. IV.

The Election Day.—Banners displayed on both Sides.—March to Brentford.—Assassination of two Representatives.—A d——d Lye.—Skirmish at Hyde Park Corner.—Large Bodies inlisted into the Service on all Sides.

THE day of election being arrived, a dish of the most enormously scandalous pageantry was cooked up for ingenious high entertainment, which, though it would not relish or go down, yet engaged the serious attention of the Poles in general, though detested by every sensible man that was a lover of decency and order. This was the first signal of intended riot on that side, and offered by the bearers of a standard; leaders of a body of men, who affected to be called gentlemen, supporters of the religion and laws of their country; evidently it should seem as a signal of their own order, decency and inoffensive dispositions. But the gilded emblazonry, with the word blasphemers in that standard, shewed who were the publishers of most pernicious principles, moving forward under

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under that provoking ſignature of offence to the worthy.

The mild, loyal, and temperate carriage and demeanor of John of Bucks's ſtandard bearers, the decency of whoſe ſtandard ſmit the beholders with veneration for his perſonal intereſt and honour, preſented to them a ſuitable motto, applicable to the cauſe John had undertaken with alacrity, as the words preſented themſelves, *with Britiſh ſpirit, firm to the truth.*

It was obſerved and noticed, particularly on this day, that the prime black miniſter, Jabalahouſke and his ſecretary, were buſily running their noſes into all the croſs-bun warehouſes in the electorate of Brentford; giving orders for compleating a ſervice of croſs-buns, for entertainment and refreſhment of the few dependents imbodied in the tenth tribe of the Poles, in order to wipe away and expiate their crimes, committed in the diſplay of their banners. In the mean time expreſſes were diſpatched, and agents charged with a mandate in behalf of the Colebrook confederacy, to ſhut up all the croſs-bun warehouſes, and to open only one coffee-houſe

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for the entertainment of their friends, with confident aſſurance for ſaving expences, alſo that one coffee-houſe ſhould hold them all.

Theſe oppoſite and contradictory mandates, began to fling the capital into diſorder and confuſion, which was inſtantly increaſed, by the arrival of a courier expreſs, with a circumſtantial and peremptory affirmation, that George Cooke, Eſq; had been attacked upon his march at the head of his infantry, under the walls of St. George's hoſpital at Hyde Park Corner, where he had received a mortal and blaſphemous blow in the ſtomach with a bat, diſcharged by a brick-maker, and that John of Bucks had in the ſame ſkirmiſh been ſhot dead upon the ſpot by a collar-maker; the two aſſaſſins being in oppoſite intereſts in the canvaſſings.

The confuſions and horrors increaſed every moment, and the whole electorate groaned under theſe alarms for the death of their darling repreſentative, the truly noble and brave John of Bucks. Nor were any one of his true friends at all pleaſed with the violence ſaid to have been offered to his competitor, George Cooke, Eſq; though

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though he ſeemed to have loſt himſelf much in the eſteem of the electors.

Diſpatches were ſent off immediately by his excellency the black miniſter, Jabalanouſke, with the melancholy news of theſe murders; the churches were ordered to be ſhut up, and the bells tolled out on the melancholy occaſion. In the mean time, the capital of Brentford New Town was in an uproar, and vengeance denounced againſt the perpetrators of the infamous aſſaſſinations. The friends of John of Bucks, no leſs anxious for his ſafety, ſtood amazed at the unconcern expreſſed by the complainants of the firſt murder, without the leaſt regard had to, or expreſſed for the ſecond, though the loſs of a more valuable life in the perſon of John of Bucks. The preparations for the election were ſuſpended, and the electorate in this confuſion, when a trumpet, preceded by a bag-piper from the army of the confederates, arrived with the joyful and authentick intelligence, that the reports ſpread, and currently credited, were both d——d lyes, propagated deſignedly to over-rule and deceive the electors; for that neither George Cooke, Eſq; or any of his officers, had even

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ſhewn their noſes but under cover of the guns of St. George's hoſpital. It was nevertheleſs true, that the two armies came in view of each other there, the confederates having their banners diſplayed at the ſame time; which they affirmed the high wind had unfurled. Be that as it may, the enemies to blaſphemy, for ſo indeed may be called the body ſupporting John of Bucks's ſtandard, whoſe reſentment was now rouſed juſtly at the violation of decency, as before obſerved, in their opponents ſtandard emblazonry, they attacked it with a pretty ſmart firing from the ridoubt at Hyde Park Corner, and a ſlight ſkirmiſh enſued between the advanced parties on either ſide; and the party of John of Bucks facing to the right, fell in with the factious leaders of the blaſphemous ſtandard, who made a ſhameful precipitate retreat, and with great difficulty ſaved themſelves and their banners by flight, deſerting their friends, who, though no electors, had been drawn together, in a few hired gilded carriages for that day, to make the ſplendid appearance of gentlemen, and as a diſtinguiſhing mark for the good new cauſe. But the route and overthrow of the leaders of this body of the advanced guard of the party,

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who had advanced alſo too precipitately into the center, theſe were borne down by the ſudden haſty retreat of their ſupporters, in which one or two of the carriages were over-ſet, and the glaſſes, but no heads, at that time broke, as they deſerved, their ſkulls being remarkably thick.

The Bucks neither purſued the fugitives, or took further notice of the enemy, whom John had timely and generouſly warned, by the publication of his intentions to perſevere himſelf in a peaceable diſpoſition, on his own route requeſting them to maintain the ſame; which he already had, and would recommend to be the guidance of his followers behaviour; and which he faithfully continued to exhort, on their march.

Many of the enemy after this firſt route, took up their ſick quarters in the hoſpital, and the non-commiſſioned electors deſerted to their coach-makers to mend their carriages; and the conquerors continued their march, ſupported with manly courage and firmneſs, and arrived within

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in the lines of their encampment, on the ground marked out by the quarter-maſter general, to the ſouth weſt of the capital of the electorate, being the ſpot of deſtination on which the polling citadel had been erected, and to which the candidates were in order of march to proceed to election. John of Bucks's army arrived on the ground about ten in the morning of the 28th, with drums beating, colours flying, and a moſt *execrable* band of muſick; the Bucks appeared without arms, yet ſtood ready to receive the enemy, whoſe cavalry appeared in ſight about four hours afterwards.

It now began to be whiſpered about the lines of Hanwell, that an enormous corps de reſerve of Poles, the main body of which lay concealed in the defiles about Knightſbridge, as in former times, were in full march from Shrewſbury, in buckram uniforms, with a very conſiderable train of heavy artillery, and would arrive in the eve of this day, to join the Poles in the confederates pay. The high-conſtable of Petty France, with his officers, were immediately diſpatched to make good their quarters, all along the

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the banks of the river Brent, and for impreſſing all the veſſels on that river, in order to tranſport theſe troops with their artillery, with the greater expedition down to the Corn-mill, which they had in command to take poſſeſſion of, preceded by a conſiderable corps of Forlorn Hope, and to attack their enemies entrenchments to the eaſtward of the mill, being ſunk between the mill and the Polling Citadel, which would then be expoſed in flank to the hot fire from the mill, and favour the atttack of the entrenchments, which muſt be carried. It was not doubted, theſe diſpoſitions put the friends of of George Cooke, Eſq; and Sir W. B. Proctor into ſanguine hopes and high ſpirits, with a view to the expected ſuccours and ſucceſſes of the day; and it was then given out with the greateſt confidence, that colonel Bucks had no more chance for carrying his point, than a cat in hell with her claws off. This was at that time the ſenſe of the clergy in general, but was ſpoken under the Roſe.

In oppoſition to theſe diſpoſitions, and at the ſame time to intimidate the approaching reinforcements, minutely expected in buckram, the

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emiſſaries of John of Bucks gave out a report, the truth of which yet remained doubtful, and ſeemed acrimonious, that John of Bucks had poiſoned by his general influence a great body of watermen, to oppoſe the Poles, then on their march out of their ſecret encampment in the defiles of Knightſbridge; and it is ſo far acknowledged as a truth, that a conſiderable body of watermen, among whom were ſome few firemen, in the whole amounting to no leſs numbers than five thouſand effective men, made a moſt flaming appearance, had ſet up their ſtandard, and were encamped behind a moraſs, on the plains of St. George's in the Eaſt.

About this time another body, but it was not known with any degree of certainty whether fire or watermen, had committed great depredations, and taken poſſeſſion of a quick ſat up mill *, on the banks of Limehouſe-Hole, for the

* This mill was erected at the ſole charge of C—— D——, Eſq; brother of R—— D——, Eſq; the projector of the M—g—a—n C—a—y. The former ſtudying the relief of poor mens backs; in taking the laborious work of ſawing timber and plank out of their hands. The latter in a double view, to the backs of poor men, and the b—s of poor labouring women.

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the more expeditious grinding of Old Magdalens, which this body affected to give out in order to cover their ſecret purpoſe, was a great detriment to the trade of baſket-making, and by which the daily ſubſiſtence of the poor would be conſiderably curtailed; and the firemen of this body attacked it ding dong, ſword in hand, ſet their engines to work, whether with fire, or between wind and water, is not certainly known yet, but a conſiderable part of the ſaid mill was moſt undoubtedly blown up, or burned down, as it was afterward given out and believed, to prevent the enemy's getting poſſeſſion, and thereby covering any detachments that might be ſent off from the plains of St. George's in the Eaſt, by command of prince Jabalanouſke, under cover of the fire of that mill, in order to blow up the powder magazine at Woolwich; and at the ſame time, a flying party from the Buckram camp, now come up within the lines of Hanwell, were ordered to ſecure the powder mills at Hounſlow.

Col. Bucks, at this time, with all the coolneſs and courage of the moſt experienced general-officer, took the neceſſary precautions to coun-

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teract the plan of operations of the Hanwell body of the confederate reinforcement under the command of lieutenant-general Maclochland, of whom colonel Bucks had received intelligence, that he had already diſpatched captain Ouchterlony, of the ſcalping grenadiers, to beat up for volunteers among the coal-heavers, and with what number of them he could pick up, on ſo ſhort notice, to break through the body of ſea and watermen, incamped on the plains of St. George's in the Eaſt, in order to retake poſſeſſion of the remains of the quick ſet up mill, on the banks of Limehouſe-Hole.

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CHAP. V.

Diſturbances in Addle Street.—*Falſe Reports raiſed to diſcredit the Barber Surgeons.—The Barbers Political Syſtem and Qualifications examined.*

WE ſhould be ſorry here to break in upon the thread of our narrative, were it not to touch upon an incident connected nearly with the view of eſtabliſhing the credit of the hiſtorian's impartiality, and to do ample juſtice, without giving umbrage or ſecret diſpleaſure to that party, whoſe good opinion the author would willingly deſerve and preſerve, and as upright judges to ſupport his authority, being deſirous at the ſame time to cultivate and improve the mutual good underſtanding ſubſiſting, and bound up with us in the ſame ſyſtem of political and natural improvement in knowledge in general, and for public information; and being at the ſame time fraught with various ſentimental diſcoveries and circumſtances, which without this explanation, might be greatly detrimental to a trading people and the ſafety and welfare of the kingdom.

Impar-

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Impartiality in every the minuteſt circumſtance hitherto advanced, and a deſire of continuing in the ſame diſpoſition in every other point to be hereafter diſcuſſed, will not ſuffer the author's ſilence, in regard to the worſhipful aſſociated company of barbers and peruke-makers.

And herein it would be cruelty to ſit down tamely ſilent, blinded by the ſcattered frothy ſuds of defamation, ſprinkled with the hot lather of an over-heated, violent and turbulent faction, in order to waſh the dirt off themſelves, and caſt it on the heads of the innocent. For it will moſt manifeſtly appear in the courſe of this enquiry, that no thirſt after blood in that body ever had, as falſly reported and as generally credited, the very ſmalleſt incitement in them, to dip and ſcald their own fingers by increaſing the late diſorders; no, it is believed rather, that every ſenſible, judicious and impartial man in this kingdom, will hereafter lend his helping hand to ſhave off the few ſmall blemiſhes in the barber's viſage, which, upon a ſtrict ſearch and ſcrutiny into their own actions, looking into a clear reflecting glaſs, will be found to have penetrated far more deeply into

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to his own countenance, than the hitherto much injured fleſh of his brothers the barbers.

It ſpeaks itſelf, firſt, in their behalf, that the withdrawing themſelves previouſly to the preſentment of their addreſs, from the blood-thirſty connections with the ſurgeons, that they were free from, and ſhould be exculpated of ſanguinary intentions; nor can it be credited with the leaſt complexion of reaſon, that the * *late* riſing of the barbers ſo *early* in the day, as to enable them to make their appearance at St. James's by twelve o'clock at noon, had any ſhare with the leaders of the ſubſequent diſorders at ſo diſtant a period as the riſing of the weavers a year afterwards.

It is true the barbers have ever been remarked for a political people, and from whom may be gathered conſtantly, that is to ſay, early in each morning, and every hour of the day till very late at night, eſpecially on Saturday, when applied to, on any or all occaſions, within the reaſonable hours

* N. B. *Late* riſing of the barbers ſo *early*. Be pleaſed to obſerve, that *late* has retroſpective reference to two years in the rear of the preſent day, and *early* to one year in front of the weavers.

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hours as above limited; their moſt candid and unbiaſſed opinions of the whole fraternity, reſpecting riots, murders, commitments under general warrants, and other notorious diſorders and commitments time out of mind; and although they have been, it muſt be confeſſed, frequently charged with intermeddling with party concerns, this charge cannot be ſo juſtly imputed to their own natural bent, as the neceſſarily required qualifications in duty to their employers exerted, who may, according to long eſtabliſhed uſage and cuſtom, expect and demand, the beſt furniture in the barber's power, to furniſh the ſkulls of their bare-headed cuſtomers — provided nevertheleſs they pay for it, who conſtantly themſelves take meaſure of the barbers underſtanding by the fixed ſtandard of their own.

But to be thoroughly informed and fully acquainted with the ground-work of theſe peoples intentions, the author put himſelf into the hands of Monſieur Frizolique, a native of France, and originally intended by his parents for the bar, as a ſolicitor in the courts of law in that kingdom. This honeſt man the authorgave the preference to all others on the account of his religious tenets; he

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he having renounced the errors of the Romiſh church to embrace Proteſtantiſm. For, had not this been well atteſted, common prudence would have guarded the author as well as the principiples of his own religion, from having any connections with him, or at leaſt from putting his life into the hands of that man for the ſake of his wife and children, whoſe faith and politicks otherwiſe would have been but ſlippery ſecurity for the throats of individuals, who are neceſſitated to converſe every day with him.

The change of Monſieur Frizolique's religious opinions, as before obſerved, having bound him to the diſagreeable neceſſity of quitting his country and the profeſſion of the law, he cut his way through theſe impediments and difficulties with a light hand and keen razor, mounting the block inſtead of the bar, where poſſibly he might not have turned out ſo cloſe a ſhaver as the eminent of that profeſſion are known to be in this kingdom. In ſhort, he turned out a quick-ſighted, ſenſible man, with much vivacity and humanity, and therefore the author flung himſelf upon his mercy for the benefit of his country, which he would not have intruſted with the beſt lawyer that now

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wears a full bottom, except ******* and ****, N. B. That is the beſt ſhort hand that the author can write. But to proceed.—With this man he held many conferences, whilſt under the diſcipline of the razor, in one of which he joined in the univerſal voice againſt the high price of proviſions; he explained the particular neceſſities that had obliged the company of barbers, connected at that time with the ſurgeons, to join their remonſtrances to the higher powers in behalf of themſelves and others dependent on them, and made it appear evidently to me, that it was owing to the humanity, ſincerity and policy of his countryman Mr. Hogarth, of bewitching beautiful memory, that their body was ſo effectually relieved from their diſtreſsful ſufferings, by his repreſentations and the exhibition of his five orders of wigs.

Before this happy day, their calling or myſtery was ſunk to the loweſt ebb, inſomuch that their very ſervants flew from them, clamourous for more bread than their trade could ſupply in the general run of their employment, the whole batches of cruſt covering the hairs baked and manufactured in their ſeveral and reſpective callings,

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lings, not providing ſufficient bread for ſupport of two apprentices and three journeymen upon an average in each family, the uſual allowance in weight firſt deducted, according to the allowed cuſtom of bakers, to compenſate for the immoderately advanced price of bread-corn in our markets.

The barber ſurgeons then groaning under the almoſt inſupportable ſufferings, and chiefly being Frenchmen, to whom bread is truly eſteemed the ſtaff of life; the barbers, I ſay, held many meetings and conſultations in their ſenate houſe, in Addle-ſtreet in Wood-ſtreet, in order if poſſible to obviate the general ſufferings under ſuch pitiable and calamitous circumſtances.

It was at one of theſe conſultations that the ſurgeons propoſed rough alteratives, the tendency of which might poſſibly, if given into, in moſt thinking mens opinion, might, I ſay, have brought on the great conſumption of the people; and it muſt be allowed, that the barbers were fitly qualified to operate on this diſtant hinted plan; but the political capacities, as well as peaceable propenſity of this profeſſion, taught them to decline

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all overtures that were likely to increaſe the odium againſt their brethren, and the Frenchmen already diſtinguiſhed under the denomination of ſcalpers-general in America; at the ſame time, increaſe that already laid on the Engliſh barbers, commonly ſtiled cut-throats in this kingdom.

Theſe hints it muſt be allowed, in ſupport of truth, were thrown out by Mr. Tournequet the maſter, and were ſeconded by Dr. Aſlegg the under warden of the company, who ſeemed to approve them with ſome amendment to the bill, and ſpoke to it and the amendment, in the great hall called Golgotha in the ſenate houſe.

The amendment hinted at which Mr. Aſlegg very freely propounded, was of a ſtyptical qualifying nature, to be tacked, or added, and to be made a rule of court by the journal entry of the proceedings of the houſe, if the firſt motion ſhould receive the ſanction and approval by ballot, which is a ſure and judicious manner of proceeding, in order to prevent bribery; and this entry was to become one among other by-laws of the ſenate. But this did not happen to be the caſe; on the contrary, the general clamour was raiſed

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raiſed againſt the firſt motion, and the amendment as ſeconded by Dr. Aſslegg, both the one and the other being manifeſtly ſubverſive of the ſmall and very few benefits remaining to this body, now almoſt ſevered from the head. The maſter, Mr. Tournequet, yet ſpoke with energy and graceful elocution againſt the under warden's amendment, which as he obſerved ſeemed calculated under ſpecious pretext for the benefit of the community, but evidently beſpoke the emolument of private intereſt, which he deteſted for the following reaſons, ſet forth by the worſhipful the maſter in his place, who was himſelf a ſurgeon by his profeſſion.

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CHAP. VI.

Speech of the Worſhipful Maſter of the Barber Surgeons Company.—Speech of Monſieur Frizolique, the Head Warden.

The Maſter, Mr. Tournequet's Speech in the Aſſembly.

Gentlemen,

NOtwithſtanding the intimacy and friendſhip which has long ſubſiſted, and I am inclined to hope will ſtill ſubſiſt between the ingenious Dr. Aſslegg and myſelf, in whoſe converſation I have been made happy frequently at his houſe in Fiſhmongers-alley in Fenchurch-ſtreet, I cannot more fully explain my own diſintereſtedneſs and unbiaſſed ſentiments and opinion, than in this open oppoſition to his ſentiments, though at the ſame time I am ſorry to obſerve, an oppoſite conſideration has actuated that gentleman's joining with, and ſeconding my own motion, which I am now to ſpeak to.

Shall we join our approval of either of that gentleman's amendments, and fly in the face of govern-

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government by drawing blood in profuſive quantities, under ſpecious pretence of liberty, ſanctified by our charter under the ſign manual?

And again, what proof has Dr. Aſslegg laid before this body, that his intentions were lenitively interpoſed, and intended to be reſtrained by his ſtyptick, and the only means to enforce the general obſervation and conſideration, that all our lives being apparently now at ſtake by the reduction of fleſh from the walking ſkeletons of our fraternity, crying out, under the preſent ſcarcity and ſhort allowance of bread, that the drawing of ſo much blood would fully prove the efficacy of his propoſal for the publick utility.

Now although, I highly applaud doctor Aſslegg's deep penetration and judgment, diſplayed in the conferences I have held with him at his own houſe, in the diſcuſſion of the ſymptomatical œconomy of the human body, I yet cannot aſſent to the polipedial philoſophy of the learned doctor Baker, as applicable to the human body or ſtructure, in all its parts, or the uſe that gentleman propounds from the theory by the intro-

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introduction of the practice; indeed the theory does carry something plausible in it, but the benefit of the practice, in my apprehension, is not to be obtained, but with apparent hazard of our body politick.

Shall we then risque the heads of all our neighbours to raise our own, though at present I allow under the most distressful predicament; or admitting for the present, though I do not allow what the doctor proposes, the cutting the throats of a few only by way of experiment, and that he does not mean, for I understand him, and would willingly be understood, that he does not mean the absolute and intire amputation of the head from the body in the first onset; is it not apparent, that however efficacious the doctor's styptick may have been found hitherto, in the different and frequency of his operations and experiments exhibited on the brute creation, yet the extraordinary effusion of blood under the violent operations, must of course reduce the frequency of calls on us, for the benefit of phlebothamy, by the copiousness of the opposite practice, and of course, as I said, lessen the necessity of calling in our aid and assistance, to the

immense

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immenſe reduction of our daily fee, on common emergent occaſions. So that on the whole, I muſt declare myſelf for rejecting the ſtyptical polipedial practice of doctor Aſslegg.

The foregoing ſpeech, alarmed greatly when tumult and confuſion was ſpreading; the maſter of the company called to order, and made room for ſome ſtrictures from the head warden, on the ſpeech already delivered, and he opened in the following manner.

The ſpeech of Monſieur Frizolique, head warden of the worſhipful company of barber-ſurgeons.

I am, gentlemen, you all know, a barber, and of ſome eminence, I may modeſtly affirm, in the profeſſion; and although I little concern myſelf with ſurgical operations, yet, nevertheleſs, am diſintereſtedly bound up, with the worſhipful maſter, who ſpoke laſt, in his ſentiments, delivered with ſo much preciſion, candour and judgment for the publick emolument, and will hold up both my hands againſt both Mr. Tournequet's motion, and doctor Aſslegg's amendment,

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not only as they may both affect the main body hereafter, of the incorporated ſociety, but alſo the detached party of political barbers, abſtracted from all ſurgical intereſt in the queſtion now before us.

I muſt acknowledge myſelf much alarmed at the introduction of the learned doctor Baker's polipedial philoſophy amongſt us, and although I revere doctor Aſslegg in his frizoliſtical practice and capacity, yet let it never be remarked hereafter, that we have joined the ſurgical, in the minuteſt degree, with the frizoliſtical practice in ſo ſtrong a union, as to endanger the ſucceſs and welfare of both indiſcriminately.

I apply myſelf particularly in this point to doctor Aſslegg, now preſent, for general ſatisfaction to be given to all parties, in order to clear up thoſe doubts which have alarmed me for the future well-being of myſelf and all my brethren, and how ſanguine ſoever I hold myſelf, for the more univerſal uſe and profuſion of powder and pomatum, yet am I not for the introduction of the doctor's ſtyptical powder as a cataplaſm to the preſent ſores, and much too ſeverely-felt

grievances;

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grievances of the barbers profeſſion in general. For I am aware of the dangerous conſequences awaiting the operating barbers in ſurgery or ſurgical caſes.

A man going to execution with all the thought of futurity about him, is not, I preſume, under very much concern about his dreſs, it is true; and at his leiſure, in his moſt ſerious and anxious reflections, thinks it immaterial perhaps, whether he hangs in his full bottom, or in his night-cap. But I appeal to doctor Aſslegg's own experience, when Mr. Aſslegg applied to his favourite criminals in both inſtances; whether, I ſay, each of them ſeperately conſulted on the ſubject of the ſtyptick in queſtion, whether they did not make very affecting remonſtrances, and ſhewed not the very greateſt repugnancy to appearing in publick without a head.

Now if this be the caſe, and I have truly and fairly ſtated it, and opened myſelf on the occaſion, pray tell me, gentlemen, how ought we to be alarmed with apprehenſions for our own loſs, and the amputation of the heads of all our ſupporters, to whom, after the operation performed,

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ſhall the patient apply for the ſtyptical powders, allowing the moſt ſalutary effects of the ſtyptic to take place, in producing another head, to whom, I aſk again, ſhall the patient apply? the anſwer is at hand; to doctor Aſslegg to be ſure, who alone ſingly is poſſeſſed in his barberous capacity, with the invaluable powder itſelf, and the vehicle or engine for immediate application of it, in the momentous time of need; nor is this the only objection.

Pray, gentlemen, let me aſk you, is it not poſſible that the doctor himſelf may be miſtaken in the chimical powers and virtue of his own noſtrum, and if ſo, after a general amputation of heads has taken place, amongſt whom ſome of our ſuperiors ought in reaſon to have the preference, which he would lead us to hope may be the caſe, who then is to apply to us for full bottoms? where will be the judges who will maintain the point, that our profeſſion will not be laid under a more general ſuffering calamity, then even the preſent, by the neceſſarily diminiſhed calls on us for tyes, bobs, bob-majors, ſcratches, queques, toupies, cumberlands, naturals, non-naturals, full-bottoms, &c. &c.

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The aſſembly were alarmed at theſe judicious reflections; the ſurgeons determined from this hour to amputate their intereſt from the body of barber-ſurgeons, actuated both from different principles to purſue the ſame ends; they now determined to make uſe of their own ſtyptics, to put a ſudden and efficacious ſtop to doctor Aſslegg's further proceedings. The aſſembly broke up, and the firſt ſtep taken by the ſurgeons, now aſſembled ſeparately, was the exertion of their natural tenderneſs, to ward off the excruciating ſufferings by amputation and ſtyptics, and they all became inoculated with a more favourable ſort of ſenſation, taking the matter in hand, to oppoſe the private intereſt of doctor Aſslegg in his daring attempts as a barber ſurgeon, and to preſerve to themſelves the general and flouriſhing practice of the body of ſurgeons, under the diſguiſe of lamp-lighters in the evening.

The barbers proceeded with ſeeming diſintereſtedneſs likewiſe in the preſent criſis of affairs, and to act for the general benefit of the heads of the preſent adminiſtration; and Mr. Aſslegg now

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now ſeparated like a polipee, from both bodies of diſſentients from his ſcheme, carried on his approaches by ſap, under the walls of ſome hoſpital, but could never make a breach wide enough to enter himſelf, and was cut to the bone by frequent diſappointments.

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CHAP. VII.

Continuation of the Hiſtory.—The Ladies intereſt themſelves in behalf of the Barbers.—The Petition in behalf of the Full Bottoms.—Monſ. Frizoliques admirable Capacity exemplified.—The Barbers Religious Tenets, ſupported by Strong Proof and Argument.—Monſ. Frizo deputed at the Head of an Embaſſy. The Secret Articles of his Commiſſion.

THE ladies at the court end of the town, having been alarmed by the barbers riſing to preſent their petition in favour of the full bottoms, and rumours ſpread up and down for the faſhionable uſe of them throughout the community, found themſelves aggrieved, contrary to all rule, for the heads of their lords; and piqued at the neglect of their own, in not being conſulted and included as principals in the intended petition, nor to have any concern in the new intended modes of faſhion, ſeeing they had ever been as ſolicitous to promote it and trade as the barbers themſelves; and therefore, in order to remind

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remind theſe people of their diſreſpect ſhewn to them, who wiſhed to be joined to their intereſt, they ſat up a moſt hideous ſcream, under pretence that a legion of ſharp razors were intended to be levelled at their throats, by the barbers; who they affected to believe were advanced to Spring Gardens, armed with their own long poles, in order to force the petition down their throats.

The petition, which had been drawn up ready for preſentment, and engroſſed by Monſ. Frizolique, was now copied and atteſted to be an authentic copy from the original; and from the firſt intimation given at Barber Surgeons Hall, that the ladies were loſing their patience, and all ſenſes; and requiring that a deputation from the hall ſhould be ſent to them, for relief of their already terrified imaginations; the maſter and wardens recollected the miſtake and great diſreſpect, and forthwith deputed an embaſſy, at the head of which Monſ. Frizolique was placed, and inſtantly diſpatched with full powers to make acknowledgment of the body's joint errors, overſight, and diſobedience of reſpects; and now with moſt dutiful ſubmiſſion,

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to explain and lay at their feet their own unhappy ſituation, and to implore the ladies to ſhake off their terrors and reſentments, and join their prevailing influence in ſupport of the ſuffering petitioners.

From the foregoing explanation of the barbers political abilities, in the ſeveral ſpeeches made in full aſſemblies, at their convocation in their ſenate houſe; the difference of ſentiments between the barber ſurgeons, which excited great warmth and oppoſition on both ſides, and filled each other with inflammatory invectives; yet it ſufficiently indicates the pacific inclinations of the barbers, and moſt manifeſtly exculpates that body from having any connections, or being bound up, with any other body of men whatever, in oppoſition to the eſtabliſhed laws of our country; ſo remarkably well ſecured to the ſubject in their civil rights, and ſo piouſly preſerved and ſupported by the tremendous roarings, bellowed out with no other pretended, or known reaſon, than as proper declamations, in all wicked public conjunctures, to ſuppreſs licentious railings againſt the religion of our country, as by law eſtabliſhed, and daily and

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nourly practiced by the well-diſpoſed good chriſtians in general; few, very few excepted.

An example ſo modeſt and dutiful in carriage, whether in private, or on public repreſentations of the barbers joint grievances, does not merit the harſh and ill-judged appellation of riotous, diſorderly, diſſatisfied, inſolent, and abundance other charges, which have of late days been abundantly beſtowed on the barbers, on account of their riſing.

To what principle can we aſcribe, as the enemies to religion have done, the barbers proteſt againſt the heatheniſh and blaſphemous cuſtom and practice impoſed on them, in ſhaving, hair and wig dreſſing on a Sunday, but their pious willingneſs of keeping the fourth commandment.

To what principle can we aſcribe, as the enemies to religion have done, and to theſe people in particular, the oppoſition they made againſt doctor Aſsleg's murderous ſcheme, but the barbers religious obſervance of the ſixth commandment.

And

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And can it then be reaſonably ſuppoſed, that theſe ſtrict obſervers of the fourth and ſixth, pay not as dutiful regard to the ſeventh, and tenth, taking in adultery and coveting a neighbour's wife, who are at this time ready to part with their own and children into the bargain.

Theſe were the ingenious Mr. Frizolique's remarks, (a very near relation of the great miniſter Monſ. De Buſſy,) on government, which ſhould fully eſtabliſh their credit, and his own great abilities, in the negotiation principally committed to his management and addreſs; but to return from this digreſſion.

It was either on the 11th or 12th of January, 1766; it is not certain which (the ſurgeons having claimed and carried off the records); but however, about a week before the anniverſary of her preſent majeſty's birth day, that Monſ. Frizolique was deputed, having previouſly been authorized, under an inſtrument drawn for that purpoſe, with the common ſeal of the ſenate affixed, and with proper inſtructions, if any were neceſſary to be given to ſo able a miniſter, to ſollicit the ladies in behalf of the full bottom.

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No appointment could have been more judiciouſly conferred, or with greater warmth of heart accepted for the public ſervice.

Monſieur, the then ſollicitor, was a man ſix feet high, broad porter-like ſhoulders, full broad face, of impenetrable copper coloured complexion, pitted with the ſmall-pox, ſet off with a very fine flaxen full-bottom, with a black grogram ſilk ſkull-cap, with all the outward marks of wiſdom and ſagacity; and, indeed, knew very well which ſide his bread was buttered on: the ornamental appearance of the wig ſo venerable to ſages, was calculated by the ſcale of Sir Novelty Faſhion, before the relapſe from nineteen ounces, into nine hairs of a ſide.

Beſide the inſtrument of credentials already ſpoken of, he was prepared with the original correct draft, under Mr. Hogarth's own hand, of the five orders of wigs, as ſo many ſecret and ſeparate articles, to be produced and ſpoken to occaſionally, as the circumſtances of time and place ſhould require, by way of ſupplement to be referred to; beſide which he had another draft of the ſaid five orders in profile,

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not quite ſo correct as the former, but a good draft, that he might be prepared to ſpeak to the paſſions at all points.

He was introduced by the woman of the bed-chamber to Lady Diana Whitelegs, about one o'clock at noon, her ladyſhip being juſt then riſen from under a courſe of chocolate in bed, and who appeared in the moſt delicately negligent form of dreſs imaginable.

"This clear and ſuccinct repreſentation of "the preciſe hour and ſituation of the honour- "able perſonage, to whom this valuable body "of men are ſo deeply indebted, may poſſibly "alarm the ignorant, who are totally unac- "quainted with the laws of decorum, veſted "entirely in the breaſt of people of faſhion; "'tis ſufficient for Monſ. Frizolique, that the "laws and cuſtoms are not withholden from "the knowledge of frizures, corn-cutters, and "tooth-drawers in general, of this incorporated "body."

Who but the vulgar conſider, what is ſo trifling in high life, with ſuch ſcrupulous abhorrence;

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rence; unacquainted with the privilege of people of quality, who are hourly juſtified in doing thoſe things, which perſons in the grovelling channel of trade repreſent as odious.

Frizolique, not unacquainted with the ceremonious deference due to the ladies of high rank, was ſtanding till her ladyſhip diſpoſed her perſon in an eaſy chair, careleſly throwing one leg over the other, when the brocade ſlipper fell from off her left foot; ſhe called Monſ. Frizo towards the window, where ſhe was ſeated; who falling upon his knee, at the ſame time was feeling for his inſtrument, in order to preſent it, which her ladyſhip having no apprehenſion of at that inſtant, and miſtaking the ceremonious intention of his attitude, cried out, why Frizo, you forget that you cut my corns on Wedneſday laſt, and I have been perfectly tranquil in my feet ever ſince, and therefore have no need of a further operation. Frizo then preſented his inſtrument which her ladyſhip condeſcended to take into her own hand with moſt ineffable ſweetneſs of countenance, and after peruſing the contents, told him, as in the next chapter.

CHAP.

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CHAP. VIII.

Lady Whiteleg's *Sentiments.—Her powerful Intereſt; yet not ſufficient to carry her Point.—The Petition dropt.—Renewed Remonſtrances by Monſ.* Frizo, *with the Succeſs.—Mr.* Hogarth's *Five Orders of Wigs efficacious.—The fatal Conſequences not apprehended by the Ladies; but ſeverely felt by the Gentlemen.*

Lady Whiteleg's Sentiments.

MONSIEUR Frizo, having ever attach'd myſelf to procure the eaſe and happineſs of my fellow creatures, having every feeling for their ſufferings that your politeneſs expreſs towards my viſitations, when under the excruciating pangs of corns and tooth-achs, I ſhould little merit your tender concerns and helping hand for my relief, did I not intereſt myſelf more immediately by my endeavours, to relieve thoſe afflictions, wherewithal not only your wife and children are now labouring, but your childrens children may feel the hereditary

effects

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effects of, without the ſpeedy application of a remedy.

My own lively ſenſations of what they immediately groan under, and my apprehenſions of what their children may languiſhingly ſuffer till death relieves them, has already prompted me, on the firſt rumour of your diſtreſs, to convene together an aſſembly of my own ſex, who could moſt affectingly move the paſſions of our lords and maſters: to theſe, therefore, in the very expreſs terms of your inſtrument, or petition, we have jointly and ſeparately already preferred the prayer of your petition, but I am ſorry to tell you, without effect: the anſwer thereto we have received in ſhort-hand, as I muſt expreſs it. Lord Jeroboam, my lord, delivered his ſentiments to me in bed, with the moſt preſumptuous imprecations on his own, and deprecations againſt your heads; calling your honeſt endeavours, ſeditious, mutinous, riotous, preſcriptive inſolence to the beſt of kings; adding, your ladyſhip muſt therefore pardon me, if, whilſt I reſign the cooling of your bottom, into the hands of your hoop-maker, under your own direction, I decline and diſclaim all overtures

on

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on your part, for the warming and adorning my head; and I further inſiſt and deſire to hear no more of it: and theſe he aſſured me, on his knowledge and honour, were the ſentiments of the whole body of the nobility. Judge then, to what purpoſe will be our or your further endeavours in favour of the preſentment of the petition.

Frizolique, like a man of true ſpirit, received this mortifying rebuff with the moſt reſpectful good grace, and returning thanks to lady Diana, and the reſt of thoſe charitable ladies, who had honoured him and his principals, with their favourable endeavours and countenance given to their petition; he immediately communicated the unpleaſing intelligence to his aſſociates in the embaſſy, who had long waited in the ſaloon below ſtairs, but were now diſpatched to their main body at St. James's: and thus dropt all hopeful promiſes they had ſo long figured to themſelves, in behalf of the full bottoms.

Frizo returned, and was again admitted, who, ever ready at expedients, like a wiſe financier, turned his application to the ſecret articles, and

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producing to her ladyſhip the inchanting lines of beauty under Mr. Hogarth's own bewitching pencil, her ladyſhip ſeized the fair occaſion of turning Mr. Hogarth's compoſition of the five orders of wigs to the emolument of the barbers, and the advantage of the fair ſex at the ſame time, by ſelecting from the five orders, ſuch parts of each order, as in a compoſite ſtile and conjunction, ſhould frame and build up towers of immortal honour on the pillars of their truly publick ſpirit, and ſet off and improve their own exquiſite beauty.

And now taking Time by the forelock, and hinting her ladyſhip's pleaſure of coming immediately under the diſcipline of the toncile, and Monſieur Frizo's forceps and plaiſter box, having called for her ladyſhip's ſilver chafing-diſh with hot charcoal embers, ſhe prepared by diſcharging firſt her night ear-rings.

Frizo, with a pretty ſharp-edg'd ſilver ſpatula, gently raiſed the outward edge of the incruſtated dandriff, in a circular form, around the woolly beehive of the preceding week's dreſſing, and bringing the head-pan to a ſufficient degree of heat

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heat by Mr. Farinet's thermomiter over the charcoal embers, he applied it in themanner of a magnified cupping glaſs, over the whole pelt of the laſt dreſſing, in order to render the paſſage of a warm dividing comb more free and eaſy through the conglutination, which by repeated ſtrokes paſſed through the whole pelt, with a light and gentle hand, diſcharged the decayed unction into a kind of a ſaveall, formed on the curved back part of the comb, in manner of a dripping-pan in miniature, on the edge of a gridiron; and the dividing comb being diſcharged of ſo much conſolidated collected unction, as could be gathered at this ſitting by means of ſcalding water, and receiving a ſecond heat, is again loaded with a preparation of freſh untried unction, and the whole pelt receives a freſh plaiſter, mixed or made up with a ſiccatriſing powder, always uſed in the laſt operation, and is then divided into as many portions of the pelt, bound up in cartridge paper, and compreſſed with the hot pincers or forceps, to be thereafter diſpoſed into curls by touches and re-touches of the pencil of the artiſt, at finiſhing up the order, whither compoſite from the five, or otherwiſe enlarged, heightened, ſpread, or contracted and adapted to the

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lines of becoming beauty in each ſubject, under preparation for the drawing room, as in the preſent example treated of.

Thus the preceding diſappointment in the full bottoms of the gentlemen, was amply compenſated in the reception of the foretop of the ladies in general, making a happy transfer of the barbers former ſufferings to the heads of their opponents, in laying a revengeful foundation for the now frequent petitions and applications for divorcements among the great, from the obnoxious ſuffocations and effluvias, which every man in his ſenſes would joyfully fly from, and concludes the diſcuſſion of the points intended to be treated on, in behalf of the barber ſurgeons.

CHAP.

*** The Reader is requeſted to correct an error twice made in Chap. 5, having fixed Barber-ſurgeons-hall in *Addle-ſtreet*; which will not be found there, but in *Monkwell-ſtreet*.

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CHAP. IX.

Bribery attempted.—Condemned.—Diſputed.—Religious Canvas and Diſputes.—Licentiouſneſs of the Mob.—Forcible Remonſtrances of the landed Intereſt.—Adminiſtration of the Legiſlators unblameable.—Their great Wiſdom and Endeavors uſed to appeaſe Diſcontents.

IT was given out, but with what foundation of truth cannot be ſaid or aſcertained, that the partizans and agents for John of Bucks, had raiſed a very conſiderable fund, with intent to bring over the coal-heavers to his intereſt; and ſome do not ſcruple to aver, that more open bribery was attempted, than what had been recently proved, on an incorporated body on the other ſide of Uxbridge.

Theſe bribes, if any ſuch were offered, had not the deſired effect; and the coal-heavers, ſteady to their principles and attachments, carried their reſentment of the indignity offered to their body, to an incredible height. They ſwore ſacks full of oaths, meaſuring them out by the buſhel

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buſhel upon this occaſion, threatning to heap coals of fire upon the abettors and infringers of the laws provided againſt bribery and corruption; and at the ſame time, they agreed to ſtand by each other, and to go plump in the intereſt of the Colebrook confederacy; and there were not wanting in theſe times of diſcontent, men in oppoſite intereſts, ready to fix an odium on the moſt unblemiſhed characters, among whom ſome of the clergy received more than full ſhare of abuſe.

It was accordingly induſtriouſly propagated by the agents for the coal-heavers, and no doubt by their connivance, and at their inſtigation, that Hoorne, miniſter for the weſtern diviſion in John of Buck's electorate, was the man who had been principal in his endeavours to poiſon the principles of the coal-heavers.

Mr. Hoorne, a gentleman of uncommon abilities, gave little attention to theſe calumnies; yet not unattentive to the ſupport of his dignity, fixt the the firſt aſperſion on Mr. Gubbins, a gentleman farmer in his neighbourhood. Hoorne remonſtrated on this and other matters

diſ-

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diſputable, and challenged Mr. Gubbins to ſhew cauſe; Mr. Gubbins reſented the challenge, and gave Mr. Hoorne the buckram or gainſay; Mr. Hoorne very unwillingly received the ſtiffning, and returned it back moſt plentifully wrapt up in clean ſatirical ——cap paper, leaving the merit of the cauſe to be further canvaſſed and ſifted by the coal-heavers and meeters of either party, who gave full meaſure of abuſe on all future occaſions.

As an impartial hiſtorian, the matter of fact is laid before the publick, and may be as well worth their notice perhaps, as any thing laid down in this work. The charge againſt bribery and corruption, unhappily makes no diſtinction between the briber and the bribed; either of which can only be puniſhable in proportion to want of ſagacity, or for being negligently overſeen and detected, for which ſome gentlemen have been committed to Newgate in former times. The paſſage round Cape Horn into the South Seas, which at the diſtance of a few years back was beheld with horror as a moſt dangerous navigation, is now, by the addreſs of ſkilful navigators, with a good helmſman, rendered perfectly

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fectly ſafe; but what has that to do with Mr. Hoorne's bribery? for it may be ſuppoſed, notwithſtanding the ſafety of the undertaking, if bribery could have been fixed upon that gentleman by the coal-heavers, the ſtorm would have ariſen to ſuch a height, that in all human probability, he would inevitably have been ſhipwrecked in Newgate, which would have fixed as laſting a ſtain upon his cloth, as the crime at this day deſerves; is it however a crime ſo very flagitious, as the ſticklers againſt it would inſinuate; that part of the argument we will leave to be decided by the majority, not at all diſputing, that equal good addreſs and management is required in a good briber, as the bribed; and equal praiſe due to the beſtowers of ſuch generoſity on their countrymen, as to the receiver of the gift itſelf.

Who does any thing for nothing in theſe hard times? are not men to eat becauſe proviſions are dear? who made them ſo, is the queſtion; the landed intereſt, the farmer, the ſaleſman, or the engroſſers of lottery tickets.

Who

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Who are the encouragers of gaming? Will any man ſay, has not the known wiſdom of the legiſlature been exerted to as eminent a degree, in order to ſuppreſs gambling and bribery, as foreſtallers and engroſſers of the neceſſaries of life. But there ever was, and I am truly afraid ever will be, railers againſt the moſt virtuouſly eſtabliſhed government; and the ſame perſons who ſo readily cry out for the free importation of Iriſh proviſions, would make no ſcruple to cry out for the free importation of Iriſh lottery tickets, and then what would become of the acts already provided againſt gaming.

Can any thing in the univerſe be more demonſtrative of the licentiouſneſs of the preſent times, in a people whoſe duty it is to ſupport the dignity of their rulers, in a proper return for their indefatigable labours, by their very great exertion of the powers of human art, at all times, for the benefit and happineſs of mankind in general, eſpecially the lower claſs of people. Such, if any thing could make them ſo, might be happy; and at the ſame time would contribute greatly to the eaſe and happineſs of

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the noble labourers in their behalf, if the diſſatisfied would keep their tongues between their teeth, which they might be well expected to do, having ſo little other employment for the latter.

In ſhort, every individual is deſirous of liberty to ſell himſelf, and ſo done, immediately aſſumes the adminiſtration of his own affairs, and will act for himſelf, after having laviſhly ſquandered away the purchaſe-money, though perhaps more than the intrinſic worth of himſelf. Where is the reaſon of all this, ſays a candidate for a borough, or at an election for a county? ſhame to my countrymen!

You call yourſelves freeholders of the county; it may be ſo; but at the ſame time, pray gentlemen, I was going to ſay, (blackguards I mean) who do you take to be the honeſteſt men in your county?—who do you mean, ſays an independent elector, the bribers, or the bribed? why, ſays a ſtander-by, the ſuborner is a greater raſcal than the perjured;—well, but then give me leave, pray; who do you think are the moſt ſenſible men in the county, and fitteſt to conduct your

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your affairs for you, the gentlemen who poſſeſs conſiderable landed eſtates in it, or the perſon who has barely a qualification according to act of parliament, to repreſent you at this election. —Why truly ſays another eſquire, you might anſwer as well as aſk the queſtion, if we were inclined to put ourſelves into your hands, in order to appoint whom you pleaſe to rule over and ſell us at the next market, otherwiſe the laſt was a fooliſh queſtion, in my opinion, and does not beſpeak any great ſhare of wiſdom in the landed intereſt.—There is an impudent raſcal; now, this fellow is poſſeſſed of a cottage, worth forty ſhillings a year, perhaps not ſo much; theſe are the effects of your liberty; that fellow is a butcher, and a freeholder I warrant you; he has owed me, as my bailiff tells me, between eighteen and nineteen pounds, for ſheep and lambs ſold him almoſt two years ago; I offered to forgive him the debt, if he would * * * * * * * * *; and now the ſcoundrel has the impudence to fly in the face of the principal gentry of the county; 'tis enough to make a man run mad.—I ſee which way they are driving. Pray what have your late worthy repreſentatives done

to

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to you, that you will not give them your votes? —done to us, why nothing.—And if you aſk what they have done for us, the very ſame anſwer will ſerve, nothing.

CHAP.

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CHAP. IX.

Diſorder of Battle of the Buts.—Mr. Whirlepool's *Commiſſion.—Diſtribution of Favours.—Hoſtilities begun.—Diſcontinued.—Poll opened.—Falſe and true Reports.—Hoſtilities renewed by miſtake, in the diſbanded.—Heads, Windows, and Commandments broke.—The Burial of the Dead.—And departing of the Survivors.*

ON the 25th of March, being Friday, at ſix in the evening of the ſame day, Mr. Whirlepoole was ſerved with a warrant, under the hand and ſeal of commiſſary Humphry Coates, Eſq; commanding his attendance at the commiſſaries office in Whitehall, on the morrow being Saturday at eight in the morning; to receive his commands, in regard to the diſtribution of eight thouſand cockades, agreeable to the uniform motto and colours, previouſly preſented to the friends of Liberty, at the preceding election for the city of London; the preſent order regarding the future election for the electorate of Brentford; with other his neceſſary

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neceſſary commands for the ſervice, to be communicated by me, and executed in behalf of the allied friends to Liberty, in the intereſt of themſelves, by attachment to the nobly diſintereſted John of Bucks the faithful.

Mr. Whirlepoole attended accordingly, and received his diſpatches, immediately putting in execution the injunctions of the commiſſary, which Mr. Whirlepoole had been before-hand in providing for, in part of his province; for having been drawn upon for eighteen hundred and ſixty pieces of belladine blue ſilk ribbon, more than was expreſſed in the commiſſaries firſt docket, and finding that the weavers were exhauſted by the extra demand, Mr. Whirlepoole had employed the proper agents to buy up among the citizens, ſome of thoſe favours at an under rate, which the liberality of John of Bucks had beſtowed on the unworthy objects of his bounty; this ſcheme ſucceeded, which with the addition ready to be cut from the loom, were an ample ſupply. And the commiſſary was pleaſed to expreſs his thanks, for the great diſpatch with which his commands were executed.

Mr.

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Mr. Whirlepoole employed Mrs. Deborah *, the milliner of Brentford, the moſt expert and able ſempſtreſs in the executive branch of cocking for the officers, with her own hands, in the moſt exquiſite taſte; and referred the ſubalterns and private to be cocked by her aſſiſtants, all which were compleated, and delivered out in due time and order.

The morning of the 28th being arrived, and the main body of the allied friends to Liberty having ſtood on their ground four hours with impatience for the confederates approach, at about twelve at noon the ſignal was given, for the covere dwaggons with proviſion and baggages, to be drawn behind the infantry, to the north and ſouth of the covered ways to the citadel, in two lines; ſo that the infantry were not expoſed immediately to the chambers, which till then preſented to the line of Poles, now marching up into the highways, to the breaſt works of the Polling Citadel, in the center of the Buts.

The

* Mr. Whirlepoole happens to be miſtaken, Mrs. Deborah's name being Dorothea.

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The confederates cavalry with bag-pipes preceeding, made a pretty good appearance; and by a forced march, thro' ſome ſcattered infantry in the highway, gained the ſouthermoſt flank of the citadel, by an unexpected maneuvre; for after their defeat under the walls of Hyde Park hoſpital, the commander in chief apprehending that all was loſt, by an extraordinary preſence of mind, gave out his orders for changing the uniforms of his corps, to the colour of the enemies cockades, and then rallied his infantry, who faced about, and were ever after undiſtinguiſhable from the allies, and for the preſent thereby eluded the purſuit, by marching under falſe colours; and this ſtratagem was of great ſervice to the confederates, who by the fineſſe, marched up to the Poles without being attacked or challenged, confounding all diſtinction, and ſaving the credit of their leaders; till which time, the advanced party of their forces, which had gained the center of the Buts, ſtood expoſed to the almoſt inceſſant diſcharges of the allies cat-carcaſes.

The confederated candidates however, were reſpectfully and honourably conducted in ſafety

to

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to the platform of the polls, attended by their proper officers, in a carriage drawn by ſix horſes, ornamented with their own yellow uniform ribbons and trappings, either denoting ſcorn of flying from their colours, or as others pretend, having not recovered their ſenſes ſufficiently, to recollect the neceſſity for their own ſafety to have changed the uniform, as the wiſer part of their body had already done; but it was now too late.

For notwithſtanding, they themſelves were permitted to mount the platform, without the leaſt oppoſition, no ſooner had they gained it, than a ſmall body of Poliſh infantry of the allies, as volunteers, unofficered, under true blue colours, moved down from the heights to the weſtward, took the carriage in flank, fell in pell-mell upon the driver, and diſmantled and plundered the cattle of their decorations, and then returned to their own body, without making any further depredations, upon the body of the carriage, cattle, or drivers, which was ſuffered to be drawn off the ground.

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Hoſtilities were diſcontinued by conſent of all parties, except ſome few diſcharges of ſtink-pots from the caſements, which were anſwered with carcaſes from the trenches and low ground; but the quarter-maſters, having neglected a ſufficient ſupply of ſtink-pots on the ſide of the beſieged, and the large proviſion of cat-carcaſes of the aſſailants being expended and conſumed, the firing gradually ſlackened on both ſides; when the chamade for a parley was beat in the Citadel, and a ceſſation from hoſtilities for eight hours was agreed to, in order to the poll, which was immediately commenced.

It was carried on with the utmoſt ſtreſs of vigour on the four breaſt-works, and with great decency on all flanks of the Citadel; but nine tribes of the Poles of the allies, coming up with ardour on the part of John of Bucks, and bearing down upon the tenth tribe of the confederate Poles, it was now given out falſly and maliciouſly, that the Buckram Poles, who were expected to be arrived from the lines of Hanwell by this time, had been oppoſed and intercepted from coming up by John of Bucks his officers, who had thereby infringed the articles of ceſſation,

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tion, tho' it was known to be a forgery, and that the report itſelf was no other than Buckram in all its parts. For when the time of ceſſation agreed to was expired at the cloſe of the conteſt, it appeared upon caſting up the numbers polled, that John of Bucks had been honoured with, and entitled to, the ſuffrages of twelve hundred ninety two, chiefly the plumpers of the independent unbiaſſed voters; George Cook, Eſq; to no more than eight hundred and twenty ſeven; and Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, eight hundred and ſeven; and theſe two laſt numbers, generally underſtood to be compounded of the offal votes of John of Bucks, and the voices of impreſſed polls together. Upon which the declaration by the proper officer was made, in favour of the firſt named gentlemen, as duly elected; Col. Buck's modeſtly declining the honorary accuſtomed ceremony of chairing, as uſually, avoiding invidious reproaches, at this time moſt likely to be repreſented as an encouſager of licentious, tho' joyful acclamations and expreſſions of the populace, which were remarkably numerous.

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Nor can the ready reports of a venal ſett of gentry, in regard to the tumultuous riotings and obſtructions given to the confederated body of Buckram Poles, obtain the leaſt credit, without caſting an indecent ſlur upon magiſtracy itſelf, attending the protection of the peace on ſuch occaſions, who muſt be admitted very able judges of their own authority and conſequence, to put a full ſtop to all riotous proceedings; and who, it is well known, were not in favour of John of Bucks and his party; and therefore it follows, that an unruly, riotous mob, as they were ſtiled, might have been diſperſed by reading the riot act, and in default of obedience to it, what had the juſtices to apprehend from putting the laws in execution, by calling in the military aid; of which at leaſt there were then more than two hundred within immediate call, who upon their worſhips command, might have had the pleaſure of firing upon the rioters, when numbers of them muſt have been killed, as ſince practiſed in St. George's Fields, and the remainder, if their legs had not been broke, would have diſperſed of courſe; whereas the whole number that fell in civil combat in all Brentford,

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including those who fell in the moſt obſtinately fought bloody battle (except one *) in ſupport of the Boot and Petticoat ſtandard at Stocks Market the ſame evening, did not exceed fifty; and who were all decently, and ſo ſecretly interred, that very few people even upon the ſpot or places of action, where the heat of the battle fell, knew or could give any account, into what part of the country they were marched off, or whether on horſeback or on foot, which was the cuſtom of interment in the days of the ancient kings of Brentford; and the ſurviving conquerors, at the cloſe of the poll, being intitled to equal privilege with the ſlain in battle, their deceaſed brethren, made uſe of them, and at the ſame time diſbanding themſelves, marched off the ground from Brentford, in a peaceable and ſecret manner; tho' many were left in the deepeſt diſtreſs and ſorrow, for the loſs of their friend in the day's action: It muſt not be denied that ſome of the ſelf-diſbanded troops, on retiring to their quarters in London, gave few marks of regular diſcipline upon their rout, and can only be

* (Except one) The battle at MALS PLAQUET, under John Duke of Marlbro'.

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be excuſed for having miſtaken the purport of orders, given out by the proper officers of a different corps. For,

Peace and good order being reſtored to the electorate, it was about this time, Lady-Day, for making up the rate of the window tax, payable at this quarter of the year; that ſome frauds and abuſes were diſcovered by the collectors of that duty to the crown, when the commiſſioners for the due execution of the diſcharge of the tax, demanded a more exact payment of it from the inhabitants; and to prevent ſuch frauds in future, and in order to diſcover the defaulters in payment among the houſekeepers, it is ſaid, an order had been iſſued to the inſpectors of the window lights, to inſpect the number of windows ſubject to this duty, and to make a particular return of the defaulters into the proper office. And a more regular method could not have been propounded for the benefit of the revenue, than the inſtructions and commands given to ſhew lights in numbers in the windows of the inhabitants that unlucky evening of the 28th; in order to mark the number of windows, and by which the inſpectors might clearly diſtinguiſh,

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and charge to the accounts of the ſeparate perſons, the number to be paid for.

The inhabitants tacitly refuſed compliance with the order, by ſhutting up, or darkening their windows, ſhewing no lights; when the decamping diſbanded troops from Brentford, aiming at ſtrict juſtice in behalf of the collectors of the crown revenues, and having ſome confuſed notions of the order for marking the windows, on finding it was not already done, thought themſelves in duty bound to lend their aid and aſſiſtance, for the more ready taking the account, by ſetting their own mark upon the defaulters or delinquents; and from theſe loyal endeavours, entirely owing to a miſtake, proceeded many of the ſubſequent tumults, to the cauſe of which the readers it may be thought were in the dark till now; and from thence commenced, not only the breaking of windows, but alſo the breaking many heads, and not leſs than ſeven or eight of the commandments, in one and the ſame night.

CHAP.

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CHAP. XI.

The State of the Church; Churches opened.—Steeples open and ſhut.—Mr. Hoorne ſcandalized.—Vindicated.

IT will not in this place be unſeaſonable to remark, to the credit of proteſtantiſm and church government, and the extreme order and decency of that church's miniſtry in general, a few London clergy excepted, that upon the preſent occaſion, being Paſſion Week, all their words and carriage, expreſſed the moſt obvious chriſtian diſpoſition, concealing as much as in them lay, the errors or miſtakes of the numerous pariſhioners in general, and the ſmall failings which their human natures are ſubject to; their words breathing the moſt chriſtian diſpoſition in their ſeveral religious functions, in imitation we ſuppoſe of that truly laudable prelate of Charles the firſt's days; no diſtinction of party or prejudice, manifeſting in favour of politicks among the reverend body. On the contrary, the chaplains of the ſeveral regiments drawn

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out on this occaſion, appeared at the head of their reſpective corps, encouraging them to do their duty like men and chriſtians, pouring out declamations againſt all manner of lewdneſs and profaneneſs in general, and their attendants, riot and diſorder, the concomitants of publick elections; and it was timely and ſeaſonably obſerved, by ſome of the parochial Reverends, that tho' the diſpoſition of the body of Poles, might poſſibly have been in a more inflammatory manner affected, in their ſeveral conſtitutional diets, held for their wordly enjoyment juſt at this period, yet themſelves the clergy were principally, and at ſuch ſeaſons more eſpecially charged with, the preſerving diet for their ſouls good and happineſs, loudly denouncing thunderings againſt blaſphemy, which they were ſorry they ſaid, and their hearers believed, to have been too contageouſly ſpread and publiſhed among the people then aſſembled. They gave out peremptory orders throughout their reſpective pariſhes to ſet open the church doors of each by day break, where themſelves conſtantly and duly attended their duty in a more eſpecial and devout manner; and on Monday the 28th of March in Paſſion Week,

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being the day of election, a moſt affecting diſcourſe was delivered from the pulpit, in preſence of prince Jabalanouſke, who gave wonderful attention to a moſt pathetic exhortation to the hearers, and delivered with great piety and devotion; wherein the preacher ſhewed the fatal tendency of rioting and tumultuous rejoicing; exhorting the hearers to keep their conſciences void of offence, himſelf having no wiſh ſo near his heart as the deſire of peace, love, and charity for his pariſhioners, and for eſtabliſhing of ſound doctrine, under the protection of his preſent majeſty King George, the beſt of kings, praying for the ſhowering down bleſſings on his royal iſſue, the preſent wiſe miniſtry, and all in authority under his moſt ſacred majeſty; and declared it was for the ſake of peace at this time, and good order alone, and not from diſaffection to the government, that he had muzzled the pariſh bells, and taken the keys of the ſteeple into his own poſſeſſion, to which the congregation gave the moſt ſerious attention, departing peaceably, and without any attacks on the heads of the pariſhioners, or their windows.

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It was about this time, and not before that Ap——— was ſilenced by the vicar ———, he being abſent from the body of ſouls under his charge; that Ap——— took the care and cure of thoſe ſouls into his own keeping, preaching up the neceſſary duty of adding works to the faith of his hearers, and which he exemplified by his own truly devout practice, in oppoſition to the reigning doctrine crept into his own by ſtealth, as well as many other churches; he therefore demanded the keys of his own belfrey, to put a ſtop to the enthuſiaſtic ſound of nonſenſical jangling without meaning. This was repreſented as arbitrary and violent, by the aſſembly of the diet then convened, and repreſented by them to Jabalanouſke as ſuch; they could do no leſs in gratitude, and return of obligations that prince had frequently conferred, by the introduction of his Poliſh black ſoup into their ſeveral dietines. Jabalanouſke fired at the violence of theſe proceedings, took immediate cognizance of the merits on both ſides the queſtion, and tranſmitted their complaints to the vicar, who it muſt be confeſſed is uſually too warm in his reſentment, and had no cordial liking to Ap———, who,

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to do him no more than ſtrict juſtice, was a truly upright and good man in every particular, and altho' perhaps poſſeſſed of a few blameleſs oddities and particularities, he nevertheleſs ſtood ſtaunch to his firſt principles of ſhutting up the ſteeple; an error in judgement perhaps, or not, which he did not think material to diſcuſs with violent and headſtrong oppoſers.

The vicar, upon the firſt news of theſe commotions, ſummoned an extraordinary diet, to which ſome of the principal Poles were invited to aſſiſt. The vicar, who preſided at the head of the aſſembly, the gold headed ſtaff of his order in his right hand, demanded an explanation from his vicegerent, of his precipitant carriage in unneceſſary works. Ap——— replied to it extemporary, with nervous expreſſion and reſolution; but whether too early in his defence he inveighed againſt occaſional conformity in opening of ſteeples, and in contraſt defended his own doctrine for muzzling the bells, as in the day of locum tenens was done at St. Bridget's in Fleet-ſtreet, and St. Mary le Bow; the body of the Poles took the lead then, in the diſorders that immediately followed; and ſome of the

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the principals, who ſtomach'd prince Jabalanouſke's black ſoup, oppoſed the vicar; whilſt others again, that is to ſay, nine tenths of the aſſembly, aroſe in ſupport of Ap———. Animoſities increaſed, and invectives were thrown out by the objectors to black ſoup, that the Evan Gellycal body were too high fed, and that the tenth tribe of the Poles were ſtarving, whilſt their opponents were fed hourly with plumpers; and that however diſagreeable black ſoup might be to ſome few, they were all well inclined to the loaves and the fiſhes. The vicar deſired to ſpeak and be heard to this point, and demanded his tythes in kind, and the ſowing with equal diſtribution the remaining nine tenths he pronounced and declared againſt muzzling, eſpecially the ox that treads the corn; that the allied Poles having two plumpers to the confederates one, the offals of John of Bucks his Poles, would be gladly received and cooked up by ſome of the Caſſocks, who temporized not a little upon this preſſing emergency, for the ſervice of the tenth Hungary tribe, and ſaid, that nothing but want of charity could with-hold it from the brethren in theſe times of languiſhment, diſtreſs, and ſcarcity of proviſions, when it was ſo eminent-

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ly conſpicuous, that John of Bucks, and his party were in no predicament of plumpers; but the majority, ſenſibly feeling the craft of the propoſal, cried out, no Cooks, no Proctor's; and became tumultuouſly noiſy, and in this confuſion, there were not wanting ringleaders in throwing dirt and filth, on ſome of the clergy in oppoſite intereſts, who from innate goodneſs of heart, differed from the too common temporizing ſyſtem of conſcience.

Among the greateſt friends and favourites of John of Bucks, Hoorne, miniſter to the aſſociated grand body, in the intereſt of Old and New Brentford, and the kingdom in general, was exhibited with acrimonious declamations againſt his attachments, and was preſented to the falſe fire of the enemies to him and their country; for having as was falſly alledged and affirmed by ſome, who knew the contrary, ſhut up the church doors of Brentford, (New Town implied, tho' not expreſſed) otherwiſe no cenſure could fall on him, who did not keep the keys of Old Brentford church (New Church underſtood) becauſe it was then building, and not yet

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yet finiſhed, and of courſe the doors had not been opened on that day, or any day before it.

Hoorne, 'tis true, did not preach himſelf in his own church on that Monday, or for a week preceeding perhaps, but in the interim his duty was not diſcontinued or neglected, but had been ſtrictly performed by his own appointment of an orthodox miniſter to officiate for him of jure divino principles, who took the text on a certain occaſion from Pſalm 68, verſe the 12th; "Kings with their armies did flee and were diſcomfited, and they of the houſhold divided the ſpoil."

There were not wanting the ſame declaimants againſt any doctrine, as againſt no doctrine; they were loud in cenſure againſt inflammatory diſcourſes from the pulpit on political ſubjects, and theſe were again repulſed with ſarcaſmatical anſwers, aſſerting that the doctrine that had been advanced was jure divino, and preferable to ſhutting up the church and delivering no doctrine at all at the ſolemn ſeaſon, and whilſt Brentford church doors were open, the preceeding week of the election, there were irreverend

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verend men hardy enough to ſwear by gunpowder it was a d—— l—, (delapidation). Yet nobody diſputed the opening or ſhutting the ſteeple of this church, becauſe perhaps their ears were open to the ſound of the bells, not only on the day of election and the ſucceeding day, but their eyes were as open as their ears to the general joy of the inhabitants, and every honeſt man on the happy occaſion.

Had the preachers in different pariſhes in and about London and Weſtminſter, been as orthodox as ſome few of Middleſex were well known to be, much miſchief termed rebellious, thro' miſtake, had undoubtedly and happily been prevented, to the great emolument of the company of tallow chandlers; and this remark ſhould not be conſtrued as any reflection thrown out againſt that bright body of worthy gentlemens loyalty to the preſent happy eſtabliſhment; neither is it hinted in any manner of diſparagement of the glaziers, that their exceſs of virtue and loyalty was not ſhining forth tranſparently, in the general devaſtation and deſtruction of the Lord Mayor's lamps, and the glaſs windows of the citizens; yet without more apparent

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parent breach of charity againſt them, than has been generally intended againſt John of Bucks. The glaziers truly deſerve no thanks for their good intentions in the reparation of damage made by eruption and violent earthquake in the city windows, in that dreadful hurricane and confuſion of the night of the 28th of March paſt; no thanks it is to be ſuppoſed being due to that body, over and above the pay they received for an extraordinary trouble given rather to the offenders, than any of the menders of thoſe windows: and it muſt be called ungenerous in both thoſe bodies, the tallow chandlers and glaziers, not yet to have returned their public thanks to the moſt noble John of Bucks for his public ſpirit, ſtiled the principal offender on their behalf, whoſe utmoſt pains and trouble, with his moſt indefatigable endeavours for the benefit of mankind in general, have been exerted ſucceſsfully for others, tho' to his own immediate detriment.

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CHAP. XII.

A MODERN MID-DAY CONVERSATION PIECE.

Political Maxims and Religious Tenets preſerved and upheld.—Old Lady's Piety conſidered and accounted for.—Mr. Wilkes's *Character canvaſſed.—Partiality a Diſtemper.—Its Symptoms learnedly explained.—Concluſion.*

'The pretender with all the falſe charity and real malice of one 'who ſets up for devotion, attributes all his misfortunes to 'my negligence, &c.'

Lord Bolingbroke's letter to Sir William Wyndham.

DURING the contention for knight of the ſhire for the county of Middleſex, and for years before the commencement, the thinking part of mankind, as well as the lower claſs of people, favourably out of chriſtian charity ſtiled mob, an appellation fitted to all ſize of people, differing in opinion to the preſent mode, were yet ſenſible of very many benefits received from Mr. Wilkes's warm and ſpirited oppoſition to ſome irregular practices; and the moſt

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moſt illiterate among the people gathered and retained underſtanding fully to diſtinguiſh between the public acts of Mr. Wilkes, intended chiefly for the ſupport of every man's Freedom and Liberty, and which could only be maintained as long as a due regard to the laws was preſerved in the execution of them, and by which every man is content to be governed and reſtrained; and the ridiculous inflammatory ſtigmas which began to be bellowed out againſt that gentleman's private character, in order to withdraw the publick's more ſerious attention from their true intereſts.

Is it not amazing that any part of the really virtuous people, could by ſuch means be gulled out of three grains of underſtanding, or that any thing but obſtinate blindneſs, and wilful corruption at this time, could have ſealed up their eyes from perceiving that the m——y * Will any man of common capacity above the degree of an ideot, believe that the publication of * was * * * * * * * * * * * to the ſcandal of common ſenſe, and all virtuous decency.

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How are the public concerned or intereſted in my private character, ſuppoſing it to be immoral; and that an over curious inſpector into the ſecrets of my family, has made the valuable diſcovery, that my wife is my concubine, and my three children, all baſtards.

I may nevertheleſs be as credible and able a witneſs for a virtuous diſcovery or diſcloſure of a uſeful truth, and ſupport of the laws of my country, as the loudeſt reviler of my indiſcretions; and what a ridiculous and ludicrous figure does the ſolemn, political, phariſaical man make, who ſhall ſay the contrary.

Where is to be found the real, candid, honeſt reaſoner, who will diveſt himſelf of paſſion and prejudice? among what body of men is he to be met with? what an affront is it to ſay, the majority are wilfully wicked.

Tell me I pray you reverend doctor Scattergood, you are a divine; religion and good manners, oblige me to make my firſt appeal to you, for conſcience ſake.

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Do you not believe with me, upon your ſ—l that Mr. Wilkes in his intentions and endeavours, has been a better and truer friend to the inhabitants of this kingdom, than your own private conſcience examined, would hitherto permit you to acknowledge, for reaſons well known to yourſelf, and ſome of the public. ——I dont aſk how he has behaved to his lady, wife I mean, and aſk pardon; that I think is not any buſineſs of your's or mine; nor yet who was the author or publiſher of an abundance of traſh and ſtuff; we will, if you pleaſe, blend and confound the argument, and talk nonſenſe when we are both more diſpoſed to laugh.

Pray, Sir, do you not believe with me that ſome young, and almoſt all the old women, ſince the firſt week of the laſt North Briton to this day, inſtead of growing wiſer and better, by your pious and moral, as well as agreeable admonition, that they are rather gone mad within that period, with enthuſiaſm and incoherent declamations and ravings againſt ribaldry, to the ſcandal of good ſenſe, and diſturbance of their own enjoyment and the national peace and quiet

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quiet, and without any the leaſt view, or regard to other than worldly wiſdom, or removal of more eſſential preſent grievance from their neighbours.

Pray anſwer me, when one of theſe old gentlewomen grow abuſive of Mr. Wilkes, and rave againſt blaſphemy, do you not believe ſhe apprehends herſelf in danger of the ſtocks—falling and cruſhing her capital; and does ſhe not wiſh rather to feel a general ſearch into all or any of her ſecrets, than a fundamental ſpunge applied to her three per cents. by the raviſhing hands of a luſtful government after her riches? are not ſuch thoughts uppermoſt do you think when the old lady ſcreams out againſt blaſphemy, and breaking windows?

I am fearful myſelf about this time, that my own loyalty will fall under your cenſure, in my not acknowledging lewdneſs in the ſubject to be treaſon againſt the ſtate, or indeed, that it has the leaſt title to a ſhare in the debate, on Mr. Wilkes's political views, or the rationality of the applauſe he daily receives from his friends. Which way ſhall I retrieve my own half loſt character

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racter with you doctor. I will ſtick cloſe to the argument for once.

You know, Sir, it was reported ſome years ſince, but I cannot ſay that it was true, upon ſo ſlight a foundation, as its having appeared in all the prints, that the Temporary Bridge was wilfully and maliciouſly ſet on fire and burned to the water's edge; you muſt remember, on this occaſion, however, that there was ſuch a report, and for my own part I do verily believe, though I have no certain proof of it, that the bridge was burned, tho' not to the ground as was reported, that muſt have been an addition; no matter.—Who do you think lit the train that fired that bridge, that was burned to the water's edge, and would have burned further, if it had not been providentially prevented, by the fire falling into the water, or the water running into the fire.

You muſt remember likewiſe, a moſt atrociouſly ſhocking, wicked murder, that was committed, I believe it was eight, nine, or ten, if not more than eleven years ſince, upon the body of Mrs. Ruſcombe, her daughter, and maids, and two or three little innocent children

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dren, at ——, I wont ſay where, leſt I ſhould be ſuſpected to have hand in it myſelf, ſhould I mention the circumſtances minutely.—But who do you think did commit thoſe murders; if you do remember, theſe things were reported to have been done; then pray remember what I have to ſay further about theſe things; for I have not ſo high an opinion of Mr. Wilkes's morals, or am ſo much prejudiced in his favour, for ſome reaſons which you ſhall be ſoon let into, as to ſuppoſe he would be at all intimidated by the fear of half a ſcore watchmen, or twice as many devils, from firing that bridge, or murdering Mrs. Ruſcombe, and all her family, if he pleaſed to undertake it, provided he thought it could be kept ſecret; and for a very good reaſon I am of this opinion, that he did ſet fire to the train, that did fire the bridge; though for another good reaſon, to give the devil his due, I do not believe that he fired the bridge itſelf, becauſe he never did acknowledge that he did ſo, that ever I have heard; but then again, he never did deny, that he ſet fire to the train, and therefore I am convinced that he did it; and if you aſk him, and tell him that I ſay ſo, he

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he cannot prove the contrary; and for the very ſame reaſon, I firmly believe, he murdered Mrs. Ruſcombe, and all her family.

Truth is truth, and I cannot think any man, however conſiderable his good will may be to Mr. Wilkes in ſome reſpects, is obliged to defend him in his bridge burning and murders, or to wade thro' thick and thin for him, unleſs he was to be better paid for it than I have any hopes of being, and at the riſk of my own character too. A man would make as bad a figure as Mr. Obſerver in the Publick Advertiſer at that rate, with all his pretended proofs; if I had no better proofs for what is advanced againſt Mr. Wilkes, I ſhould be aſhamed of charging theſe facts upon him.

Partiality, Mr. Scattergood, is a—I am going to ſpeak like a phyſician—is a contagious inflammation in the intellectual œconomy in the ſenſorium ſommune of the brain, or ſeat of common ſenſe, and is uſually attended with a deafneſs in one ear, and violent heat and itching in the other.

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Suppoſe me, for the preſent only, to be an honeſt, ſenſible, keen-headed fellow, carrying all my ſenſes clearly about me; and that I have a high opinion of, and juſt regard for Mr. Wilkes for my country's ſake, believing him to have been actively inſtrumental in its ſupport, and then I make an open honeſt confeſſion of my faith in this reſpect.

Comes my friend and ſays, Mr. Whirlepoole, you are my old friend and acquaintance, and therefore for you own ſake I muſt take the liberty of ſaying, that you have a ſtrange manner of ſupporting Mr. Wilkes's character upon every occaſion, for no other reaſon but becauſe you think him honeſt. There is your acquaintance Mr. Carteret, tho' he has it not in his power perſonally to be of ſervice to you himſelf, I could influence that gentleman in your behalf to recommend you to my lord biſhop as his ſecretary, if you were not ſo publickly attach'd to Mr. Wilkes and his gang, who is obnoxious to the government for his immoral writings.

The ſenſorium ſommune is inſtantly ſeized upon the cuticle of the brain, which makes its way

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way upon the tympani membrana, and the ſenſorium takes a freſh impreſſion by partial inflammation, and the diſtemper being at a criſis, it transfers my former ſentiments, which till then had been in favour of Mr. Wilkes, to Mr. Carteret and my lord biſhop's ſecretary. I was quite miſtaken in Mr. Wilkes's character, and I think him in preſent and reverſion, a fellow who never did, or ever will do this nation any the ſmalleſt ſervice; on the contrary he would undertake, nay, has already undertaken, to overſet St. Paul's cathedral, fling down the Monument upon St. Magnus' church, and to turn the cathedral of Weſtminſter into the river Thames. Having loſt one ſide of my hearing by this epidemical diſorder, I am determined to abide by this creed.

Mr. Scattergood aſſures me he ever had a great opinion of my underſtanding, and was in himſelf well aſſured of my morals, and that he ſhould get the better of my prejudices when occaſion ſhould preſent of coming to a fair explanation of theſe affairs.

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For, ſays he, look about you, and then tell me Mr. Whirlepoole; the minority declare for Wilkes and Liberty, the minority I call them, becauſe I do not include the lower claſs of people; do you chuſe to join them and add one to the number, you are a minority ſtill, what will you then do, cry Wilkes and Liberty till you tear your gullet out, you are of the wrong ſide of the majority, and of courſe on the contrary ſide of your own intereſt, if you were to ſollicit a place in the cuſtoms, excife, ſtamp-office, &c. &c.

You were bred up at the univerſity, are a ſcholar, an honeſt, ingenious, worthy gentleman, and have taken a maſter of arts degree, would be glad of a ſmall living, but have no patron; make yourſelf one, be ſure on every occaſion in converſation to introduce Mr. Wilkes, and your utter deteſtation of his morals; he is bad at the core, a man with whom no honeſt one would converſe, or be ſeen in company; have a little patience, if you do not riſe immediately you are unfortunate, you have done your duty.

You

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You have choſen the profeſſion of the law, if you are a clever fellow, and have not a ſilly baſhful countenance, there is the greateſt advantage attending this profeſſion, becauſe you may be on both ſides the queſtion; this to-day, and t'other to-morrow, it makes no difference if you are a clever fellow; I ſay, you may take either in public, but in private as near as you can it is beſt to be on the ſure ſide, that is, in your own intereſt. If you are in the army or navy, you have but one ſide of the queſtion to take, which every man will applaud as the right. Have a care gentlemen, you will be broke, at leaſt you will never riſe.

Are you in trade, a warehouſe-keeper, a freeman and liveryman of the city, and have ſerved your offices; d—n Wilkes and Liberty, pour out execrations againſt profaneneſs, you ſhall be a common-council-man of your ward, if you keep to your pariſh church conſtantly.

Are you a deputy, keep the road you are in, you ſhall be an alderman; and then, would you mount one ſtep higher, follow your noſe, you cannot

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cannot miſs it; are not all men knaves or fools who do not make their fortunes?

Wilkes is a noiſy, troubleſome fellow; if he has wrote ſome ſpirited papers, where was his wiſdom and good intentions, in taking that ſide of the argument, only to ſet the nation in a flame, by ſpiriting up a factious mob to licentiouſneſs; a man ſo bad in his private life, never had any good in his heart, and therefore deſerves no ſupport.

There is money enough in the kingdom; keep your eye upon the Bank and Exchequer; pay your reſpects attentively at t'other end of the town; be very aſſiduous there; I ſay, follow my rules, your buſineſs is done.

Order your carriage to the door, get down into the country; perſuade your neighbours to join in a petition to encloſe your common; turn your tenants out of their ſmall farms; raiſe the rent of your lands; and by theſe means lower the price of proviſions; and no doubt you will deſerve and receive the bleſſings of the poor, and

make

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make yourſelves happy in this world, and the next perhaps—is at a great diſtance!

Whether the reader will be more thoroughly informed and reformed in his moral capacity, by this *public publication*, than he would have been by a *private publication* of the ſame work, had Mr. Whirlepoole locked it up in his ſcrutore, and kept the key ſacredly in his own pocket or poſſeſſion; theſe are things which muſt be left to the reader to break open, to whoſe impartial judgement and authority, the work is ſubmitted.

FINIS.

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